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When Manila Welcomed General Homma's Triumphant Entry

Lieutenant-General Masaharu Homma, Supreme Commander of the Japanese Expeditionary Forces in the Philippines, was given a rousing welcome by the entire city of Manila when he made his triumphant entry on May 9 after the fall of Corregidor which marked the collapse of the American-Filipino forces in the entire islands of the Philippines. Photo shows a Filipino band participating in the celebration. (Censored by War Ministry).

SCOPE IS ENLARGED FOR RULE AID BODY

To Supervise All Movements for Concentration of Political Power

DEFENSE EMPHASIZED

Election Reforms, Economy in Materials, Health Promotion Scheduled

The Cabinet at its regular meeting on Friday approved plans for the reform of the functions of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

The move ended the question of the association which has been before the Government for some time.

Under the reform plan, steps will be taken by the Government to insure that the association makes a full display of its capacity as a central body for the conduct of the national movement for the establishment of an Imperial rule assistance structure and the general practice of the Way of the Subjects.

One of these steps will be to place all movements for the establishment of the national structure under the control of the association.

Statement Issued

A statement on the subject was issued by the Board of Information Friday afternoon. At the same time President Masayuki Tani of the board commented on the action of the Cabinet.

The statement of the Board of Information was in substance as follows:

The Cabinet at its meeting today made the following decision concerning the reform of the functions of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

1. Policy.

The Imperial Rule Assistance Association is to make a fuller display of its capacity as a central body for the promotion of the establishment of the national structure for the assistance of the people in the conduct of national affairs by the Throne and the practice of the Way of the Subjects, which is the original mission of the association.

To achieve the end, various people's movements are to be brought under the aegis of the association, reformed by degrees, and made to contribute to the establishment of the national structure for Imperial rule assistance and practice of the Way of the Subjects.

2. Business of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

a. Establishing a national structure which is to form the basis of the Imperial rule assistance movement.

To Unify Thought

b. Unifying national thought, making the principle of occupational service to the State prevail, establishing a mode of living based on national defense, and establish-

(Continued on Page 2)

Nazi Air Force Downs 84 Soviet Planes; Combined Reich-Rumanian Units Push On

Domei

BERLIN, May 14.—The German air force yesterday shot down 84 Soviet airplanes in air combats, the High Command announced today. Four German machines were said to be missing.

During the period from April 26 to May 13, the Soviet air force has lost a total of 748 airplanes, of which, 540 machines were shot down by German aircraft in air combats, 73 by German anti-aircraft batteries, 76 machines captured or destroyed by German ground forces and the rest destroyed on the ground by German air attacks, the communique said.

German bombers were said to have blasted British airdromes and anti-aircraft batteries on Malta and to have shot down four British airplanes in air encounters over the Mediterranean.

As announced in a previous communique, German submarines operating in the North Atlantic have attacked a British convoy bound for Britain and after several days of fierce fighting sunk nine of the ships, totaling 31,000 tons, stated the communique. Another British vessel of the convoy was said to have been seriously damaged by a torpedo.

Referring to German submarine activities off the American coast, the communique said 12 enemy ships, totaling 82,000 tons, and an escort warship have been sunk making a total of 21 enemy vessels, aggregating 113,000 tons, sunk in the last few days.

In a naval battle in the English Channel, a German torpedo boat has sunk a British submarine while another British submarine has been sunk by other units of the German navy, the communique said.

Domei

VICHY, May 14.—The fate of Kerch and the coastal area to the south of Kerch has been completely sealed before the uninterrupted, furious onslaughts by the combined German-Rumanian forces which have administered a smashing reverse to the Soviets in the nearby sector, according to a Havas message received here today from Bucharest.

An intensive battle is now raging in the doomed city of Kerch, the message revealed.

Meanwhile, the Soviet naval units on the Black Sea reportedly are offering frantic resistance against the Axis forces on the peninsula by concentrating fire upon them from the sea.

VICHY TURNS DOWN AMERICAN DEMAND

U.S. Will Try to Push Direct Talks, Says Nazi News Agency

Domei

LISBON, May 15.—The United States demand for transfer of French vessels at Martinique, French possession in the West Indies, was flatly rejected by the Vichy Government in a memorandum sent by Premier Pierre Laval to the Washington Government on May 13, according to a Trans-Radio dispatch received here today.

Premier Laval, in his memorandum, stated that such a transfer of vessels to countries at war with Germany is counter to the provisions of the Franco-German Armistice Agreement, which was signed in June, 1940, the report said.

Against Spot Negotiations

The Vichy Government, the report added, expressed in Laval's note its willingness to continue negotiations with the United States through diplomatic channels but opposed spot negotiations between the Washington Government represented by Rear-Admiral John Hoover, President Roosevelt's special envoy to French West Indies, and the Governor-General of French West Indies.

U.S. To Push Talks

Domei

BERLIN, May 14.—The United States Government is intending to

(Continued on Page 2)

BORDER AGREEMENT RATIFICATION SIGNED

Joint Communique Is Issued by Manchoukuo and Outer Mongolia

Special

HSINKING, May 15.—A communique announcing ratification of the comprehensive protocal agreed upon between the representatives of Manchoukuo and the Republic of Outer Mongolia on October 15, last year on the Manchoukuo-Outer Mongolia border dispute, was jointly issued by the Government of Manchoukuo and the Government of the Republic of Outer Mongolia at noon today, simultaneously in Hsinking and Ulan Bator, respectively.

The communique, entitled "A Joint Communique on Ratification of an Agreement Concerning the Delimitation of the Manchoukuo-Outer Mongolia Borders," reads as follows:

"The comprehensive protocol and its annexe concerning the work of the Mixed Border Delimitation Committee organized for settling the border disputes which arose in the year 1938 between Manchoukuo and the Republic of Outer Mongolia, which documents were signed between the authorized representatives of the two countries on October 15 last year in Harbin, having been formally ratified by the Governments of the two nations, they notified each other in writing on May 5 of the ratification of the said protocol and its annexe."

COMMUNIST TROOPS IN HOPEI WIPED OUT

Japanese Units Crush Main Force of 22nd Division Near Kiuhsienchen

STRATEGIC PLANS TOLD

Staff Officer Says Operations Also Designed to Cut Off Enemy's Supplies

Domei

JAPANESE BASE ON CENTRAL HOPEI FRONT, May 15.—The Japanese units operating in central Hopei Province have engaged and dealt a crushing defeat to the main force of the Communist 22nd Division at a point some 17 kilometers northwest of Kiuhsienchen, according to field dispatches reaching here today.

Meanwhile, another Japanese column, continuing spirited clean-up drives against the remaining troops in the same sector, annihilated some 300 enemy troops at a place some 12 kilometers southeast of Anping early this morning, the dispatches reported.

Progress Revealed by Officer

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN CENTRAL HOPEI PROVINCE, May 15.—The object of the current operations of the Japanese Forces which are progressing favorably in the central portion of Hopei Province is not only to annihilate the military forces of the Chinese Communist Army in that sector but also to uproot the important source of materials and manpower for the Chinese Communists, it was stated by a staff officer in charge of strategic plans of the Imperial Forces in North China in an interview with the press today.

The outstanding feature of the current operations is that they constitute a positional warfare, the staff officer explained, adding still more noteworthy is the fact that the position of the enemy has been a most complicated one wherein the Communists hold not only armed force but political and cultural influences as well.

Further Important Tasks

Thanks to ingenious strategy of the Imperial Forces, the Communist forces in Central Hopei are being eradicated, the staff officer continued, but the Japanese Forces have further important political, economic and cultural tasks to restore peace and order in the region so that the inhabitants therein may be able to engage peacefully in their respective occupations, and that the vast, fertile area may come to contribute toward the administration and economic development of the entire North China.

Pointing out the importance of the central section of Hopei Province to the Communist Army, the Staff of-

(Continued on Page 2)

LARGE-SCALE CAMPAIGN CONDUCTED BY AIRMEN IN BURMA DRIVE TOLD

Complete Annihilation of Combined British-Chungking Air Forces in Five Months Told by Army Air Commander

Successful operations of the Imperial Army Air Corps in the Burma campaign were pictured by the commander of a certain unit which played a large role in the action, in a talk he had with newspaper reporters at the War Ministry on Friday.

The Army Air Corps in the Burma area started action following the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. It destroyed more than 90 enemy planes in one of its attacks on Rangoon in the early days of the war. By May 11, it had disposed of a total of 554 enemy planes, thereby annihilating the combined British-Chungking air forces in the Burma area. The commander's account was as follows:

The enemy air force in the Burma area did not amount to much prior to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia and as it showed such an acute phase, it was augmented by planes brought from China and India.

Thus, the outbreak of the War saw the enemy air force in this area made up of air units of the British and Chinese armies.

I said the air units of the Chinese army, but intrinsically they were air units of the American army. They were Chinese in name and American in substance.

The fact of the matter is that the planes used by the Chinese air units were American-made machines. If there was anything about them that made them appear Chinese it was the Chinese mark on them.

These combined enemy air forces had a base from which to operate against the Japanese in the air field at Mingaladon.

Enemy Coordination Bad

There was little coordination in the work of these combined forces. Very seldom did they act in concert in attacking the Japanese.

The planes possessed by the enemy air force based at Mingaladon were for the most part combat planes. As for bombing planes, it had few. The explanation of this fact is that the enemy had meant to be on the defensive.

Naturally the enemy air force operating from Mingaladon refrained from embarking upon large scale operations. The utmost it did was to attack Japanese air fields or units in the firing lines near the border and within reach of it.

There was no single occasion on which enemy planes attacked in any large formation. Air attacks invariably were in the nature of guerilla warfare.

Enemy planes attacked Bangkok three or four times at night, taking advantage of the bright moonlight. Each time three or four planes came over but quickly left, after dropping bombs at random.

It will have been noted that the enemy's method of conducting warfare was on the whole negative.

But he was in dead earnest about defending Rangoon from air attacks.

He fought pretty vigorously with our planes over the neighborhood of the air field at Rangoon. He persistently attacked Japanese squadrons of bombers.

The enemy had air watchers and air information corps. These kept him informed of the movements of our Air Corps. It frequently happened that hardly before Japanese planes had taken off than the enemy had knowledge of the impending attack of it.

Thailand had up to quite recently been under British domination. This is the reason why there was a fairly large number of enemy spies in that country at the time we were engaged in operations against Burma. In all probability these spies were back of the fact that each time Bangkok was attacked at night a strange red signal went up in the neighborhood of our quarters. I am sure that the enemy was informed by radio the moment our planes took the air. When our planes reached their objective, they would find enemy planes poised for action over the city.

This led to our action in ordering a stringent control of the activities of possible enemy spies in Thailand.

The inadequacy of the police force in Thailand, coupled with the imperfect condition of the anti-espionage system in the country, rendered our operations against Burma extremely difficult.

The enemy in the Burma area unlike the enemy in the Malay and Philippine areas, possessed air fields at several places.

Moreover, he was very tenacious. He made it a point to go into hiding if we met him and dealt a crushing blow to him. Presently he would show with the same strength of airplanes of which he was possessed before he had been dealt with by us, having made up the loss with planes he had managed to obtain probably from Chungking, Kunming or British India.

This caused us no small amount of trouble. Crushing the enemy was like killing flies. We had dealt a heavy blow and thought that we had disposed of him for once and all, only to find to our dismay that 10 days or so later that the enemy was as strong as before in numbers of planes.

We found ourselves facing the question of eliminating the root-cause of all this.

A few words about our method of conducting warfare in the Burma area.

The strength we maintained at first in this area was extremely small. The fall of the Philippine Islands made possible an increase in the small air unit we had operating in the region.

When our air force in the Burma area was strengthend, we set out on a new air campaign.

It was about January 25 that we reached the theater of our prospective operations.

Air Units Reinforced

By degrees air units came to swell our force.

By January 24 we were in a position to concentrate on attacks against the enemy air force in Burma.

If I remember correctly, it was about this time that a real air campaign in this area started in earnest.

At this time, Japanese ground forces, after crossing the border, were advancing into Burma.

Now there were few roads worth the name in the border districts. It would appear that roads were not constructed along the Thai-Burmese border for the purpose of preventing espionage.

The Japanese operating against Burma had to build their own roads.

Those of them who were on foot had to make their way through jungle land, in heavy perspiration under a blazing tropical sun. Beyond description were the hardships suffered by the troops who crossed the border into Burma.

The efforts of the members of the road construction corps were almost super-human.

It was on January 20 that the ground forces crossed the border into Burma. An idea of the condition of these troops as they found themselves on Burmese soil will be gained from the fact that they had advanced without taking the trouble to maintain contact with the supply corps. They had no changes of clothes.

We had just been transferred to this region under orders to cooperate with these ground troops.

We were ordered to work out a plan for cooperation in ground operations, of which the points were:

1. To increase our force gradually and to deal an annihilating blow against the enemy.

2. To cause the main body of our force to cooperate with the troops in their advance after gaining control of the air over Burma.

3. To make reconnoitering flights for the ground forces.

4. To help the operations of the ground forces by evacuating non-combatants and by battering the enemy forces in front of the ground troops.

The task before us was to destroy the enemy air force in accordance with the plan, cooperate with the ground forces with the main body of our air force, and go on reconnoitering flights while getting ready for an air campaign against the enemy.

As has been pointed out, it was no easy task to deal an annihilating blow against the enemy air force. The enemy was like a snake. You cannot kill a snake by cutting off its tail. The enemy was pounded heavily. But he managed to muster forces. It was common that one or two enemy planes appeared over us 10 and odd days after what we considered an annihilating blow had been dealt to the enemy.

We decided that there was no way to dispose of the enemy air force except by destroying it piecemeal, that is by destroying what enemy planes came within view.

One difficulty was that enemy planes made themselves scarce when our planes went to engage them in battle. Another was that there was no enemy establishment that could be the object of our attacks.

To dally away our time was out of the question. There was a danger that our bombers might be attacked and destroyed by enemy combat fighters.

We were left with no choice but to order our combat planes to go out and dispose of enemy fighters.

Large Formations Used

As a matter of principle, in the fighter-bomber operations, fighter planes always fly above the bombers. We also had to consider the enemy's spy system. Naturally, we had to organize as large a formation of fighter planes and bombers as possible.

A moonlit night was selected.

Thrilling aerial combats were staged in which we shot down many enemy planes. The enemy then began to reverse his tactics. Whenever our planes go to attack, he used to fly away and then when we began to return to our base, he attacked us in the rear.

The enemy attached the greatest importance to the Mingaladon Airfield. On January 23 and 24 we with our main forces attacked the Rangoon and Mingaladon airfields During the two days we shot down 124 enemy planes and destroyed seven on the ground. We also suffered some damage. This was the first aerial combat in Burma. On this occasion the enemy planes fought a rather impressive battle.

During the two days beginning January 23, we inflicted a telling blow to the enemy air strength by heavily damaging about 40 to 50 airplanes at the Mingaladon Airfield, and an additional 70 to 90 at Rangoon. The land units gradually advanced, but since the enemy, in formations of two to three planes, tried to check our move, we launched the so-called "Bi-go Air Operation" from January 26 until the end of that month.

In these operations, too, we employed the strategy of attacking the airfield with fighting planes during the day and with bombers during the night. As it was hardly possible to use a large formation for a night raid, the attacking squadron was made up of three to six bombers, but this method apparently had a far-reaching effect.

At the time, the results of our bombing expeditions were quite vague as the raids, as I stated before, were carried out during the night, but according to enemy captives, who surrendered following the reduction of the Mingaldon Airfield and Rangoon, the results were highly satisfactory.

Later on, enemy prisoners further revealed, they changed the position of the planes during the day and during the night, but even then the Japanese Units wrought havoc with the airfield and the planes with the result that a rumor gained ground in the enemy camp that there must be an espionage system at work. The enemy authorities then carried out a wholesale arrest of a large number of Burmese and Chinese living in the vicinity of the airfield.

That shows clearly how precise the effect of our night raids were. Before launching an attack, we had to study the information supplied by the scout planes which gave us descriptions of the runway, and also go over the information given by the captives as to the whereabouts of the enemy planes during the night.

The moonlight gave us further help in locating the runway from an altitude of three to four thousand meters. Thus, during the course of the "Bi-go Air Operation," we downed 19 enemy planes and destroyed another large machine on the ground.

At about this time, the Land Units had crossed the border in their advance so that simultaneously with carrying out the above operation, the Air Units had to cooperate to facilitate their work.

Advance Extremely Difficult

Practically the entire distance between the border and Moulmein is a dense jungle without any tracks, and moreover, what bridges there were, the enemy had blown up in their retreat. Our advance was made extremely difficult. However, our scout planes accorded valuable collaboration to the ground units in pushing their drive.

From February 3 to February 7, we launched the "Ru-go Operation" as the shattered enemy units reassembled and were planning to offer further resistance. During the five days, we carried out devastating raids over the Rangoon and Mingaladon airfields, forcing the enemy planes to scatter in all directions. In the course of this operation, the war results accomplished by our forces were three enemy planes shot down and 20 others blasted on the ground.

Between February 8 and February 12, a section of our units was assigned to the task of annihilating the remnant enemy air force while another part extended close collaboration to the land troops. When this campaign was successfully concluded, we spent some days in tuning up the motors and re-conditioning them for the next campaign, the "Ma-go Air Operation."

However, as we had participated in the drive in the Philippines, advancing our air base in Thailand and other operations, the planes were in a fairly bad condition. There were other jobs of replenishing the fuel and ammunition supplies, but throughout this busy period, we did not neglect to keep up our night training.

With all preparations completed, we launched the "Ma-go Air Operation" which lasted for 10 days beginning February 19. This operation became necessary since the enemy fighting planes had increased considerably in number whereas our side was experiencing material difficulties. As such a situation might prove detrimental in carrying out our future strategy, we decided to smash the enemy air strength once and for all and at the same time, to blast the Burma Road supply route.

From February 19 to February 23, we bombed the Mandalay, Pyinmana, and Toungoo railway stations, blasting trains and severing the supply route, and accomplished successful results.

The enemy had taken up his position at Mingaladon, Pegu and Baisen on the west coast of the Irrawaddy River so that from February 25, we directed our activities in smashing these positions. The achievements of our forces during this period consisted of 79 enemy planes damaged on the ground, including some large-type craft.

During this operation, the enemy planes were more or less gathered in masses and it was therefore possible for us to effect joint attacks with fighters and bombers. The method of forming squadrons at a ratio of two fighter planes and a bomber served to accomplish great results. At the Mingaladon Airfield, one or two of our bombers committed acts of self-destruction, but before doing so, they succeeded in shooting down enemy fighters.

Heavy bombers usually drop their explosives from an altitude of 4,000 meters, but light bombers often carried out dive tactics when many enemy planes are spotted on an airfield.

Bombs, Gasoline Found

When Moulemein was occupied, we discovered a large quantity of bombs and gasoline there. Due to a steep mountainous region there, it was difficult for anyone to transport a large quantity of such war materials. The enemy left all of them for us. Barracks were badly demolished but there were many airplanes which could be used after repair. The capitulation of Moulemein gave the Japanese Forces a great advantage in carrying out the next step of their campaign. From the Moulemein Airfield, we next started bombing the enemy. On February 24 and 25 we were engaged in aerial combat over Moulemein, and shot down four out of seven enemy machines. Enemy fliers who descended on parachute were arrested.

The enemy's spy net was destroyed by us when the Japanese Forces occupied Moulemein. This greatly facilitated our military operations. Even after the occupation, however, spies were active. Frequent fires were caused. A Burmese Buddhist priest was finally arrested. It is believed espionage has been wiped out now.

When March set in, the ground forces started action from the Sittang River to the Salween River. With the development of this situation, the air units carried out bombing in concert with the ground forces. When this aerial activity was successfully concluded, the reconnaissance corps took up the task of maintaining liaison with the ground forces of the bombing corps which is assigned to the bombing of enemy bases.

As our military strategy progressed satisfactorily as planned, the fighting forces penetrated into Rangoon. At this time, March 8, the enemy tried to repulse the Japanese Forces by throwing into action a large number of tanks. As the roads leading to Rangoon were rugged and steep, it was difficult for the Japanese Forces to advance mechanized units. The only way of attack was to carry out a counter-attack by infantrymen. Anti-tank warfare had to be waged by the Japanese Forces.

At Pegu, the enemy put up stubborn resistance for three days. He was firmly entrenched there one village with another being connected by trenches. Trenches surrounded by hard bricks also were constructed. Bombing by planes at first was not sufficient to crush the enemy. However, the Japanese bombers were finally successful. At this time our ground forces were on the point of penetration into Rangoon. The enemy had constructed very strong defenses due to the importance of the neighboring district which are rich oil centers. I saw many tanks wrecked along the roads. These en-

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U.S. SHIPPING SUNK IS THIRD OF TONNAGE

U-Boats Sank 180 American Merchantmen in Past 5 Months, Says DNB

TIME, NEWSWEEK WORRIED

Submarine Menace Along Atlantic Coast Held Greater Than During World War I

Domei

BERLIN, May 14.—Some 180 United States merchant ships aggregating 1,873,400 tons were sunk by German U-boats during the past five months, the German News Agency reported today.

With the American ships sunk by the Japanese Navy added to the victims of German submarines, one-third of the total tonnage of shipping prior to the outbreak of the war has been lost by the United States, D.N.B. added.

Supplementing the U.S. Navy Department's announcement yesterday regarding a Norwegian vessel sunk by German U-boats in the Gulf of Mexico, the German News Agency today reported that the victim was a Norwegian freighter of about 2,400 tons which was heading for the United States with a load of raw cotton requisitioned by the U.S. Government.

The news agency added that the surviving members of the crew of the Norwegian freighter have arrived at a certain port on the eastern coast of the United States.

U.S. Ship Losses Huge

D.N.B.

GENEVA, May 14.—A tremendous number of ships have been sunk by submarine attacks along the Atlantic coast, says the periodical, Time, in its review of the situation in that area.

Every week the United States Navy Department announces the sinkings of dozens of ships. The sinking figures for February and March have already been high but they were overshadowed by those for April.

The only possibility to put an end to these losses would be the arrangement of convoys. Such a procedure, however, would hardly be possible along the Atlantic coast since the United States navy has not sufficient escort vessels at its disposal.

On the other hand, the periodical Newsweek writes that, whatever the figures regarding the sinking of ships officially announced, the fact remains that the submarine menace on the American Atlantic coast has grown to tremendous proportions.

This menace, the periodical says, is now already greater than during the first World War, and that no effective defense measures had as yet been found to combat this deadly form of naval warfare.

U.S. Loses Freighter

Domei

VICHY, May 14.—According to a Havas message from Washington, the United States Navy Department announced today that a medium-sized United States freighter has been torpedoed and sunk by an Axis submarine in the Gulf of Mexico.

The vessel reportedly was the second lost in the Gulf since the United States entered the war.

Ship Shortage Severe

Domei

BUENOS AIRES, May 14.—Indicating the growing shortage of transports in the United States due to activities of the Axis submarines, Edwin A. Kuecker, representative of the Kuecker Steamship Company, declared before the World Trade Conference recently held at Chicago that there is no room for placement of American ships to Britain for ordinary export goods, excepting for war materials, according to the Times, London, of May 11.

Mr. Kuecker is further quoted as having said that the same remarks apply to ships on the South American run with the exception of important materials for which priority allocation is made.

There is no prospect of new shipments being made to New Zealand for the next four months, and the greater portion of bottoms destined to the various ports in the Caribbean area is being used for shipment of war materials, Mr. Kuecker said, according to the Times.

He also stated that although there may be some available space for the time being on ships on the Australian run, no space is available for shipments to India, the Times said.

Scope Is Enlarged For Rule Aid Body

(Continued From Page 1)

ing wartime economy on a firmer footing.

c. Training of the people.

(a) General training of the people.

(b) Training of the people in the technique of national defense.

The association is also to undertake the following tasks:

(a) Investigation of the condition of the infiltration of the will of the Government among the people and the condition of the people.

(b) Advicing with regard to the direction of national life.

3. Arrangements for the adjustment and extension of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association.

a. The association is to be entrusted with the task of dealing with affairs concerning the various movements for the establishment of the national structure which are now under the supervision of Government offices and matters related to the organization and direction of the national structure.

b. The association is to work for reform of elections, encourage savings, promote economy in materials, collect old materials, and deal with matters connected with the national health movement.

c. All institutions for the training of the people under the jurisdiction of various Government offices are to be brought under the supervision of the association.

d. The budgets for the operation of these institutions are to be included in the subsidy of the Government to the association.

e. The Premier is to supervise the association. The Ministries concerned are to direct the movements conducted by the association.

f. Reforms, which are considered necessary, are to be effected in the organization of the association.

g. The expenses of the association are to be defrayed out of Government subsidies and contributions.

h. The village and neighborhood associations are to be reformed to permit the association to direct their activities.

Tani Explains

The statement of President Tani of the Board of Information was to the following effect:

"The recent general election was the occasion for the crystallization of opinion in favor of the concentration of the nation's political power. The preparatory committee for the concentration of political power attended to matters related to the realization of a new political structure. The platform of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association, whose organization was decided upon at the meeting of the committee on Thursday, had a plank requiring the projected association to cooperate closely with the Imperial Rule Assistance Association. There is no doubt about the urgency of the need of strengthening the rule aid society which is to serve as a central body for the conduct of the national movement for the construction of an Imperial rule assistance structure and the practice of the Way of the Subjects."

With the prospective reorganization of the Imperial Rule Assistance Association, five main public organizations in this country will come under direct control and supervision of the Association. These organizations are the Dai Nippon National Industrial Service Federation with 5,290,000 members in 78,000 associated organizations; the National Agricultural Service Federation with about 30,000 members with Agriculture and Forestry Minister Hiroya Ino as its president; the Dai Nippon National Commercial Service Federation with 1,473,800 in 8,644 associated organizations; the National Shipping Service Federation; the Dai Nippon Women's Federation with 20,000,000 members; and the Dai Nippon Youth Federation with 15,000,000 members.

Captain Ogawa Is Navy Press Section Chief With Rear-Admiral Maeda Now on Sea Duty

Captain Ogawa (left) and Rear-Admiral Maeda

Rear-Admiral Minoru Maeda, Chief of the Navy Press Section, has been transferred to a certain important post at sea, and his position has been taken over by Captain Kanji Ogawa, it was announced by the Navy Ministry Friday.

Rear-Admiral Maeda had remained in his position for the last one and a half years through the most important period before and after the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia.

The new chief, Captain Ogawa, is 50 years old and used to be connected with the Embassy in Washington as assistant naval attache. Later, he joined the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry and Naval General Staff Office. He was promoted to captain in 1936 and subsequently was appointed naval attache to the Embassy in Washington. Rear-Admiral Maeda has been Chief of the Navy Press Section and concurrently that of the Navy Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters.

Foreign News Spotlight

Exclusive Flashes

AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE 'FIGHTS' FOR JAPAN

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—Pointing out the dire need of closer cooperation between the Australian air force and the American navy, the New York Daily Mirror stated today that the Australian airmen, mistaking an American destroyer for that of Japanese, dropped a large number of explosives and bombs. Though the crippled destroyer managed to limp into Port Darwin, the Japanese pilots finished it up when they raided the harbor, the same paper declared, adding that the commander of the warship and his men perished.

NEW SOUTH WALES MINERS CONTINUE STRIKE DESPITE GOVERNMENT ORDER

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—Ignoring a warning issued yesterday by Prime Minister John Curtin, the strikers of two collieries in New South Wales are still maintaining their ground. In order to put an end to the walkout, the Coal Commission was instructed to take steps necessary in implementing the provisions of the National Security Regulation 168.

UNITED NATIONS POWERLESS IN PACIFIC

LISBON, May 15.—In an editorial comment today, the Popolo d'Italia pointed out that the absence of an official announcement by the United States is a definite confirmation of the smashing defeat suffered by the Allied forces in the Coral Sea. The great naval encounter has completely shattered the United Nations' future expedition in the Pacific, the same paper said, adding: "The Japanese can now make communications extremely difficult between Australia and the United States."

SOONG TALKS AT CONFERENCE

STOCKHOLM, May 15.—Dr. T. V. Soong, Chinese Minister to Washington, during the conference of the Pacific War Council convened yesterday, declared: "The fact remains that the Southwest Pacific is not yet free from the grave danger."

HOARDING STILL CONTINUES IN AUSTRALIA

LISBON, May 15.—Despite the Government assurance that there is sufficient stock of clothes, buying-rush continued in Sydney with the result that the Chairman of the Rationing Committee had to appeal to the public against hoarding today.

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50,000 Liras Given Mathematician for Unprecedented Achievement

Special

ROME, May 5.—A cheque of 50,000 Liras has been presented by Premier Mussolini to Professor Poletti for his successful achievement in establishing 116,000 prime numbers indivisible by other numbers.

Professor Poletti who has devoted himself to mathematics for the last 30 years, has succeeded in a feat which had never been achieved by any other mathematician in the world.

LARGE-SCALE DRIVE OF AIR FORCE TOLD

(Continued From Page 1)

emy tanks were smashed by Japanese bombing.

Our activities were a source of much gratitude by the ground forces. The enemy tanks were of a very solid structure, but were powerfulless in the face of our big bombs.

Before Rangoon was reduced by the Japanese Forces, the enemy started to transfer his air forces to another base, and at first our scouts could not locate him. Then it happened that during one of the reconnaissance flights, our planes discovered an enemy airfield in the oil district known as Enanjoen on the upper reaches of the Irrawaddy River. The airfield was superior to the Mingaladon Airfield. The enemy must have built it a long time ago for the defense of the oil fields. Most of the enemy planes are supposed to have fled there shortly before the fall of Rangoon. Unlike the Japanese, the British fliers seem to insist on having well-equipped airfields. It is imagined that they are not satisfied unless they are provided with good beds even in time of war, while the Japanese soldiers are trained to take things as they find them. Our planes carried out crushing raids on the Enanjoen Airfield.

Forces Move Northward

The Japanese ground forces lost no time in advancing northward immediately after the occupation of Rangoon. While their march was under way, the Air Corps was engaged in repairing damaged planes and the fliers enjoyed a well-earned rest. There was a large amount of fuel for the planes at Rangoon, but there were no bombs. Transportation of bombs by sea then was difficult, as the Japanese had not yet secured control of the Andaman Sea. Land transportation also was fairly difficult. Bombs, however, had to be secured. We hit upon a plan to carry explosives by bombers.

Fortunately, we could get a big supply as Singapore had already fallen. Efforts also were made by us to carry bombs and fuel in a 50-ton steamer along uninhabitated coasts of the Andaman Sea. The task was really a hard one beyond description. Airmen even took up the ground services in preparation for the next bombing campaigns. In the meanwhile, reinforcements were sent to Rangoon to help our activities.

How to carry out the next campaign was a mission imposed on us. The enemy then had 70 to 30 fighter planes and 20 to 30 bombers at Magwe and also a fairly large number at Akyab. The Japanese Forces then were being reinforced heavily from the Andaman Sea to Rangoon. It was absolutely necessary for the Japanese Air Corps to prevent the enemy planes from attacking the Japanese landing forces and for that purpose to deal a crushing blow to the enemy air forces. It was more advantageous for Japan to crush the enemy air forces at one point instead of defeating them at separate places.

Until we started our actions in concert with the ground forces to crush the enemy air forces at one stroke, we feigned ignorance of anything about the enemy air conditions and status. Otherwise, the enemy might divide his air forces separately to frustrate our plan. We tried to feign utter ignorance of the existence of the enemy airfield at Magwe and pushed our strategy in secret.

Our action was started on March 21. During that day and the ensuing two days we carried out a series of aerial combats to crush the enemy air forces. Air reinforcements from Singapore arrived in Burma on March 20 and on the day following their arrival they had to start actions in concert with the forces proper to the region.

Naturally, the newly-arrived corps had to experience more or less hardships. However, a surprise campaign always attends with difficulties. In spite of this, our attacks were very successful and we destroyed 79 planes during the two days. This meant that almost all the enemy planes were crushed. Noon was chosen for the attack, when it was believed the enemy airmen were taking their meals. Our bombers and fighter planes attacked simultaneously, one hour after the first attack the second was carried out. On the second day, March 22, our planes attacked before dawn. The action lasted for 16 hours, involving four raids on the Magwe Airfield. In these two-day attacks the enemy air forces were totally annihilated. The air field was a miserable debris of airplane wrecks. Not only the planes, but the wireless station, warehouses and all other military establishments were smashed to pieces. The surprise attack was solely responsible for the brilliant victory. The enemy had never expected this surprise move. Only a few enemy planes came up to fight. Most of them were destroyed by machine-gunning.

The remaining enemy planes flew over to the Akyab Airfield, which also was bombed on March 23 and 24. Throughout our attacks on Magwe and Akyab we shot down 107 enemy planes for certain and destroyed or set ablaze 107 planes. The fate of five other enemy planes is not quite certain.

The large-scale attack of annihilation thus came to an end. There remained practically no enemy planes in Burma.

Enemy machines sometimes fly from Calcutta to Burma for bombing at night. They are twin-motored Boeings, but can do nothing very decisive in the way of raids.

Unprecedented in Scale

This crushing aerial battle was the first of its kind ever staged by Japan. Furthermore it bore such characteristics which cannot be found in all the world. Moreover, the scale of operations was so large as to be unparalleled in the war annals of the world.

In order to reach the enemy, we had to overcome all manners of difficulties. In view of the experience we have had we can say with safety that superiority or inferiority of armed forces is not wholly important. Numerical superiority means nothing unless we first of all the enemy's formations are penetrated. And there is no question about that the ground force must have the protection of air units. At the same time if an offense is to be staged merely for the purpose of wildly attacking the enemy, then actual operations cannot be carried out successfully. The tactical secret of fencing is to "allow the opponent to cut your skin if you would cut his flesh, to let him cut your flesh if you would cut his bones." And this also applies to aerial offensive. In once you draw your sword you must at all costs stab and kill the enemy, and it is this spiritual factor that will account for victories in all operations.

The enemy was frightened and was unable to fully defend Rangoon. It only resorted to guerilla warfare with a small air force to defend the city. It was for this reason that we were able to launch a successful offensive against the enemy. This fundamental principle underlying aerial offensive will hold true even in future activities. Of course you must expect to suffer more or less loss if you resort to such tactical operations. This is only natural because a war cannot be fought without suffering any loss.

Needless to say, the war results we achieved as a result of our aerial operation were remarkable. Success is hard to gain for armed forces which have no mastery of the air. If this mastery of the air is lacking an army is demoralized and constantly fears the possibility of the possible raids by enemy planes. This being the case mastery of the air is indispensable.

The effect plane materials have on the operations has been found as a result of the present war results to be more than materials have on the action of the ground forces. To give an example, it has been found that some enemy planes are faster than some Japanese machines. There have been cases in which enemy planes have escaped. Being little faster than the Japanese machines, the enemy planes have succeeded in escaping, although the Japanese planes have given them a hot chase in many cases. However brave and gallant are the Japanese airmen there have been cases in which the enemy craft have managed to make good their escape. Not only this, but the firing efficiency of the guns is another factor which bears great weight in any offensive. We have always defeated the enemy in any encounter, but what is necessary is to crush the enemy with less loss on our part in the future.

Japan has always upheld the principle of sending to the foremost battle lines picked forces, and particulary picked force of the Air Corps. It is of essential importance that all those connected with aerial activities should be carefully picked men. When an attack is made and our planes meet the enemy in a desperate encounter, it is not the planes but the men manning them that must do the desperate fighting. In any single encounter in which individual fighters, whether they be aviators, infantrymen or artillery crews, they must be from a picked force to win. In all aerial battles, one must be able to defeat his opponent in a single combat. Of course sometimes the combatants have to encounter the enemy in formations, but even then each combatant must be superior to every man he is to fight.

Civilian Aviation Stressed

I should like to dwell next on the development and training of civilian aviation. There is no need for me to say here how important civilian aviation is. As mentioned previously, the secret of aerial operation is found in prompt and accurate strategy. The secret of aerial operation no doubt lies always in stealing a march on the other. To do this, frequent moving from one place to another becomes necessary. To carry bombs or gasoline to an air base to which no trains or motor cars can transport them, planes must necessarily be used. However, it will be difficult for our force to do this when they are engaged in aerial operations and, for this reason it becomes necessary that they should have a powerful transportation corps. To effect a more far-reaching aerial operations in the future it is to be noted that there should be further advancement in civilian aviation resulting in the organization of a powerful transportation corps. Then they can be put to effective use in case of emergency.

Let me now dwell on some of the factors which have contributed toward our successful aerial operations. I repeat a story told me by a sub-officer attached to a fighting squad which was engaged in a fierce battle when it advanced into Mingaladon. In this battle, a certain sub-officer had scored repeated successes in his engagement with the enemy planes. Then his plane was hit by a shell and was disabled. Realizing this, he suddenly made up his mind to explode his machine unhesitatingly and composedly. However, noting that it would be futile to do this without inflicting some damage to enemy planes first, he flew over the enemy base showering enemy forces with machine-gun bullets and then crashed his machine into a grounded enemy plane.

It is a simple matter to recount a tale of such heroism but if one considers the spirit of the aviator who carried out this glorious act, one is struck by the peerless bravery of the Japanese airmen.

Deep respect and admiration is due to those who have died such glorious deaths."

Another story of heroism is about a single scouting plane flying out from its reconnaissance headquarters and encountering three enemy fighters. Attacked by the enemy planes and receiving more than 60 shots in the body of his plane, another one on his left hand and still another one on his right hand, the pilot paid no attention to his severe wounds or to his wrecked plane, but had the presence of mind and composure to land his plane on the Mohmein airport. Thus this pilot did not even treat his wounds until he had discharged his duty. This is another of the examplary services rendered by aerial warriors that deserve our homage.

Today's Press Comments

SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1942

(Excerpts from important editorials which are appearing this morning in the leading vernaculars are published herewith. Translations of other editorials will be found daily in the Evening Edition of the Japan Times and Advertiser.)

Commodity Mobilization

MIYAKO—Responding to the necessity of the State, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided to purchase iron and steel, chemicals, leather and hides, fibrous products and others totaling over 90 categories from civilian circles, and at the same time, to take an inventory of these commodities.

For the successful prosecution of the War of Greater East Asia through mobilization of the nation's total strength, it is needless to say, essential to effect a planned control over funds and various resources and to utilize them most effectively.

The mobilization of vital commodities decided upon this time by the Government, doubtless, is for these purposes and it is evidently clear, as announced by the Justice Ministry, that the measure has no connection at all with criminal investigation. Consequently, the public should not hesitate in declaring voluntarily whatever commodities they have in holding.

It is, of course, hardly possible even for the Government officials to estimate the amount or quantity of such commodities existing in the country today. At any rate, the decision of the competent authorities in deciding to purchase these commodities from the public at appropriate prices, must be considered a resolute step.

The object of the Government in taking an inventory simultaneously with purchasing the vital commodities is to keep track of the amount or quantity of vital commodities in civilian hands for future reference. It is hoped, therefore, that the public will extend positive cooperation to the Government in the forthcoming investigation.

Wartime Economic Structure

CHUGAI SHOGYO—The basis of Japan's wartime economic structure has undergone a sweeping change since the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia. Before the outbreak of the War, a great enterprise of constructing a comprehensive economic structure throughout Japan, Manchoukuo and China was on a fair way toward fruition. This promised to free Japan from its traditional economic setup relying upon the United States and Britain. Since the outbreak of the present War, this country has been making rapid enlargement of productivity of war materials necessary for its southward campaign. Such a signal change in Japan's economic keynote is only too natural to affect the wartime industrial and trade policies and the consequent material supply measure.

Now, it has become necessary for Japan more than ever before to interchange materials between Japan, Manchoukuo and China and amplify its internal industrial productivity. At the same time, efforts must be made to correct one-sidedness and hoarding of materials at home. For a long time the Government has been reclaiming old and used iron and copper, but the recent supply and demand condition of materials has rendered it difficult for the Government to be satisfied with such a negative step. The Government has already established the Key Material Control Corporation for the control and management of such materials. This Corporation will buy old and used materials for the Government. Viewed in this light, this Corporation has a very important mission and responsibility for the wartime material policy.

To Study in Japan

C.P.S.

NANKING, May 7.—To study conditions pertaining to the administration of justice in Japan, Lo Chunchiang, Minister of Justice, will shortly send three officials of the Ministry, on a visit to that country.

COMMUNIST TROOPS IN HOPEI WIPED OUT

(Continued From Page 1)

ficer said that the Chinese Communist forces which were annihilated by the Imperial Forces in the Charhar-Hopei region last autumn had been able to hold for a considerable period their positions in the mountainous region, extremely poor in material as well as manpower resources, largely because they could rely upon Central Hopei for the greater part of material and manpower supplies. The central section of Hopei Province, indeed, formed an essential base to foster and maintain the Communist Army in North China, he added.

Communists Organized

With reference to the characteristics of the enemy position in Central Hopei, the officer explained that practically whole of the vast farmland in the sector was fortified with trenches and underground highways, cutting surface roads at numerous points for the purpose of obstructing the passage of the Japanese Army. Moreover, the officer said, the Communist Army and the inhabitants of the region were highly organized as a single body.

In short, the present operations in Central Hopei are to sweep away the Communist force from North China in order to deal a vital blow to the whole of the Chinese Communist Army, the officer concluded.

Vichy Turns Down American Demand

(Continued From Page 1)

continue direct negotiations with the French authorities in Martinique Island without the medium of the Vichy Government as a result of the Vichy rejection of the American demand regarding the island, the German News Agency reported from Vichy today.

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EVIL CURSE ON HEAD OF AMERICA'S CHIEF

Roosevelt Expected by U.S. Soothsayer to Become Assassinated

Citing the prophecy made by a certain soothsayer recently in the United States that President Roosevelt would be assassinated during his tenure in office, Hiroshi Ashino, erstwhile Japanese Consul-General in Chicago, gives an interesting description of how American presidents elected on every 20th year have died in the saddle. Mr. Ashino's article, appearing in the May edition of the Diplomatic Review, is translated by Domei as follows:

"A certain Herrmann, said to be a soothsayer, reportedly prophesied the assassination of President Franklin D. Roosevelt during his tenure in office. I do not know who this certain Herrmann is or for what reason he made such a prophecy, but upon hearing the soothsaying I recalled the following occurrence:

"In the summer of the year before last, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected for a third term, a story—whose source is obscure—went round from lip to lip that during the past 100 years American presidents who had been elected on each twentieth year died without finishing the term of presidential office. In consequence of this, the American public was very much interested in the question which otherwise nobody would have given any attention to.

Case of Warren Harding

"Warren G. Harding, who was elected President of the United States in 1920, 20 years previous to the election of the present President, died in the summer of 1923 from poison from tinned crab he had aboard the ship carrying him from Alaska to San Francisco, two years and a half after he became President of the United States. The direct cause of his death was published as apoplexy, but some said he committed suicide, while others alleged it was a murder case, and scandalous stories went round implicating Mrs. Harding.

"President William McKinley, who was elected for the second term in 1900, 20 years before the late President Warren G. Harding, was assassinated in September of the following year by an anarchist who had mingled in the crowds at the Pan-American Exposition held in Buffalo.

"He was succeeded by Theodore Roosevelt who filled a second term and on account of his popularity could have certainly filled the third term had he so desired.

Garfield Assassinated

"President James A. Garfield was elected in 1880, 20 years before President McKinley, and was also assassinated in the year following his election by an office seeker who was insane.

"It is a well-known fact that President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by a terrorist in a theater in Washington soon after his re-election for the second term in 1864, although he had completed his first term.

"By going back another 20 years, we find that the late President William Harrison who was elected at the old age of 68 in 1840, became ill owing to overwork only three weeks after his election and died on April 4, just one month after his election.

"Thus, during the past 100 years, as many as five presidents have died while in office and every one of them was elected on dates 20 years apart. Hence, the prophecy of the assassination of President Roosevelt, I suppose," Mr. Ashino concluded.

CHOSENESE YOUTHS HAPPY OVER CONSCRIPTION LAW

Many Send Thanks Letters Signed in Blood for Chance Given to Serve in Army

In appreciation of the Government's step taken regarding the application of the Military Conscription Law in Chosen, details of which were announced by the Board of Information on May 9, letters of thanks, some written in blood, are pouring into the Board of Information, the Overseas Ministry and quarters concerned from Chosenese, reports the Asahi on Friday.

Following are a few of the letters of appreciation written by the Chosenese, who expressed their joy in the Government's decision which enables them to share the defense of the Japanese Empire, as a subject of the country in the true sense of the words.

A letter to the Board of Information reads as follows:

"I am immensely overjoyed at the Government's decision to apply the Military Conscription Law to the Chosenese. I don't know how to express the joy of the young men of my country. Some may assert that it is too premature to enforce the Conscription Law among the Chosenese, and although I think it may be too late, I don't think it is too premature. If I could sacrifice myself in the defense of the Japanese Empire, I would be enshrined in the Yasukuni Shrine. This is the desire of all the Chosenese youths. I hope that I will be given an opportunity to serve the State. (Signed). A youth of Chosen." In the letter was enclosed a sheet of paper on which he wrote in his own blood the word, "Thanks."

Following is a letter addressed to Masayuki Tani, president of the Board of Information:

"The oneness of Chosen and Japan Proper is fully realized when the people of Chosen take part in the War of Greater East Asia as defenders of the Japanese Empire. Here I should like to tell you how happy I am as a subject of the great Japanese Empire, who can now take part in the War of Greater East Asia for crushing the United States and Great Britain."

Burmese Cooperate With Their Liberators

Fully awakened to the true aims of the military operations being conducted in their country by the Imperial Forces, the native inhabitants of Burma are now extending wholehearted cooperation to their liberators. They offer food and water to the Japanese troops and willingly carry out a hundred and one small acts of kindness. Above, a boatman is seen ferrying a load of Japanese soldiers across a river. (Censored by War Ministry).

Literary Classics of Asia

(Continued from Page 6)

sheep, and his dwelling became a halting-place for those who were going on the pilgrimage, and it received the name of the Dwelling of the host of Al Mahdi, the Commander of the Faithful.

On another occasion it is recorded that Al Mahdi went out hunting, and his horse ran away with him until he came to the hut of an Arab. And the Caliph cried: 'O Arab! hast thou wherewith to feed a guest?' The Arab replied 'Yes' and produced for him a barley loaf, which Al Mahdi ate; then he brought some wine in a bottle, and gave him drink. And when Al Mahdi had drunk it, he said: 'O brother of the Arab, dost thou know who I am?' 'No, by Allah, he replied. 'I am one of the personal attendants of the Commander of the Faithful,' said Al Mahdi. 'May Allah prosper thee in thy situation!' returned the Arab. Then he poured out a second glass, and when Al Mahdi had drank it, he cried: 'O Arab, dost thou know who I am?'

Commander of the Faithful

He answered: 'Thou hast stated that thou art one of the personal attendants of the Commander of the Faithful.' 'No,' said Al Mahdi, 'but I am one of the chief officers of the Commander of the Faithful.' 'May thy country be enlarged and thy wishes fulfilled!' exclaimed the Arab. Then he poured out a third glass for him, and when Al Mahdi had drained it, he said: 'O Arab! dost thou know who I am?' The man replied: 'Thou hast made me believe thou art one of the chief officers of the Commander of the Faithful.' 'Not so,' said Al Mahdi 'but I am the Commander of the Faithful himself.'

Then the Arab took the bottle and put it away and said: 'By Allah; wert thou to drink the fourth, thou wouldst declare thyself to be Muhammad the Prophet of God!'

Then Al Madhi laughed till he could laugh no more. And Lo! the horsemen surrounded them, and the Princes and nobles dismounted before him, and the heart of the Arab stood still. But Al Mahdi said to him: 'Fear not! thou hast done no wrong.' And he ordered a robe and a sum of money to be given him.

Readers in Council

(Continued from Page 6)

ed States pushes ahead its naval construction program it cannot replenish the loss in a few years of the capital ships and aircraft carriers which she has lost in the Pacific conflict. In other words the United States navy will never be able to stage a comeback in the Southwestern Pacific.

On the other hand, the British navy has reached its lowest ebb in its history. The gigantic Coral Sea naval battle has given a fatal blow to the combined Allied fleet, no matter how hard the authorities in Washington, Canberra, and London try to cover up their crushing defeat.

The historic Coral Sea Battle has crowned the Japanese Navy as supreme commander of the Southwestern Pacific and pushed the Allied naval fleet into complete oblivion.

K.O.

May 13, 1942

Officer Tells How Admiral Yamamoto, Combined Fleet Chief, Lost Two Fingers

Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto, under whose leadership the Combined Fleet of the Imperial Navy has been winning successive victories, unprecedented in history, since the outbreak of the Greater East Asia War, has been minus two fingers on his left hand ever since the memorable Battle of the Japan Sea, the 37th anniversary of which is now only 12 days off.

The incident in which the Admiral lost his two digits was recounted in detail to the press, yesterday, by Second Lieutenant Keiji Ichikawa, retired, who happened to be on the same warship with the Admiral, then a naval cadet. Second Lieutenant Ichikawa left the Navy service for good, soon after, due to his own serious wounds received during the historic naval battle. For some time afterward, the retired officer was known as an author of war stories, among which, "Zanka Ichirin" (A Flower Left Behind), proved one of the best-sellers of the day.

Claiming that even Admiral Yamamoto, himself, was not acquainted with the details of the accident in which he lost his two fingers, he explained the incident as follows:

Their First Meeting

"Admiral Yamamoto was my junior by one year at the Etajima Naval College. He was graduated from the college in 1904, one year after me. I was ordered, on my graduation, to join the crew of the warship Hatsuse which in February, the next year, went to the battle front. The same ship, however, sank three months afterward by hitting a mine near the mouth of Port Arthur harbor. I was transferred to the warship Nisshin, on board which I first met Admiral Yamamoto, then serving the ship as a naval cadet.

"Since then up to his wounding on the same ship, I lived with him on board for about five months. Soon after my joining the crew of the Nisshin, the ship proceeded to Chinkai Bay where an important duty was assigned to the ship as an element of the then Combined Fleet of the Imperial Navy under the command of the late Marquis Fleet Admiral Heihachiro Togo.

"On the very day of the start of the Japan Sea Battle, May 27, 1905, our ship had successive engagements with enemy vessels, almost on end, from 2 p.m., when the epoch-making battle began, to the end of the day. All on board the Nisshin fought well causing great damage to their opponents.

"Naturally, the damage suffered on our side was very great, the resulted state being nearly one step short of total destruction. Even the Rising Sun flag on the mast had several large holes. Of our crew totaling 700, 98 were either killed or wounded. The greatest loss of all was the destruction of four guns installed fore and aft on board.

Overused Guns Burst

"I was then in charge of a small-caliber gun placed in the middle part of the upper deck and heard the terrific thundering sounds when these fore and aft guns were blown up. The destruction was not caused by enemy fire, but were destroyed by bursting, resulting from the continued overuse. Cadet Yamamoto lost his two fingers and received serious leg injury, when two of the four guns, all of 8-inch caliber, burst of their own force.

"Because of this, I remember, our ship had many casualties including the commander of the ship who lost his right eye, a staff officer who was killed on the spot and Cadet Yamamoto. We all knew that we had been using our guns too much, which caused overheating of the barrels. It was apparent that we would soon suffer disaster from this, but the needs of the battle did not allow us to be much concerned over it. We could not afford to rest our guns. So the calamity, it may be said, arose under unavoidable necessity.

"Thus, it came about that my five-month friend Yamamoto left our ship to be removed to a hospital. I saw him being carried away on a stretcher. I encouraged him by saying that he would soon be back among us with his wounds completely cured. It was a regret, however, that I could not remain long on the ship, or even in the Navy itself because of a more serious wound I suffered soon later. I lost one of my legs, which made me give up my life in the Navy.

"So far I have had no chance of seeing Admiral Yamamoto again. Now I expect to see him on his triumphant return from his brilliant service, when I hope I can talk with him in detail about the circumstances in which his two fingers were lost. I presume I am one of the very few who saw the incident. I even suspect Admiral Yamamoto himself thinks, as he then apparently did, that his wound was caused by a fragment of an enemy shell. The confusion caused on board at that time prevented all the wounded from knowing the exact reasons of their injuries. I still have some fragments of the guns, which I will show the celebrated Admiral as soon as possible."

Kobe Notes

The civil marriage ceremony of Miss Paula Lendrich to Gerd Hesse, both of Kobe, will be solemnized at the German Consulate-General in Kobe Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. German Consul F. Ried will tie the nuptial knot with Consul-General K. A. Balser and Dr. E. Schaaps as witnesses.

Following the wedding, a reception will take place at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Balser at 54/6 Kitano-cho 3-chome, Kobe.

The 39th anniversary of the founding of the Kobe University of Commerce was held in the auditorium of the institution on Friday, May 15, from 9 a.m.

The celebration was featured with the announcement of the winners of a recent essay contest, the presentation of awards to veteran members of the faculty by the Alumni Society, and concluded with a lecture.

Today's Sports

FOOTBALL

Kanto Intercollegiate Football League games Meiji vs. Hosei and Waseda vs. Keio at Korakuen stadium, Suidobashi, Koishikawa-ku, 1 p.m.

BASEBALL

Big Six League. Keio vs. Rikkyo and Meiji vs. Imperial at Meiji Shrine baseball stadium, 1 p.m.

RUGBY

Kanto Intercollegiate League matches Meiji vs. Imperial and Keio vs. Waseda at Meiji Shrine stadium, 2 p.m.

TENNIS

Kanto Collegiate Championships. Finals at Den-en Courts at 1 p.m.

FIELD HOCKEY

Kanto Students' League. Waseda vs. Shodai at Hiyoshi home field of Keio at 3:15 p.m.

BASKETBALL

Kanto Businessmen's League at Kokuminkan, 6 p.m.

Japan Yesterday And Today

(Continued from Page 6)

Magistrate or Chief of Police for the capital, for which, considering he was a man of noble birth and audacious temper, skilled in military arts, he was not altogether unfit, but his suit turned down, he went home in high dudgeon and started his nefarious career of plunder and conquest. First he killed his own uncle, Kunika, Governor of Hitachi, and seizing this province, went on spreading his domain of influence in the wide Kwanto area till at the height of his imagined glory he built for himself a great mansion after the pattern of the august Palace in the capital. So at last he had to be destroyed in Tenkyo 3rd year (940 A.D.), together with another notorious traitor, Sumitomo, the pirate chief who had been ravaging on the southern waters as Masakado had been in the plains of Kwanto.

Man of Energy

This bare outline of his career would show him to be a man of restless energy and proud imperious temper, who, if the Kyoto authorities, as represented by the Fujiwara bureaucracy, had been more tactful in handling him, might have proved himself a useful servant to the State. He certainly was not, at least in his earlier career, hostilely inclined toward the Throne.

As for Takauji, the thrice-accursed scoundrel, he certainly could not have succeeded in founding the Ashikaga Shogunate if he had not set up the northern (illegitimate) line of Emperors by whose sanction he had arrogated to himself the exalted office. The fact that he had caused the famous priest, Muso Kokushi, to build the Tenryu-ji temple in memory of the Go-Daigo Tenno and other acts of posthumous propitiation he had performed to create the impression that he was a loyal-hearted subject of the Emperor, may be taken to prove that he had no mind intentionally to damage the fundamental principles of the national polity. In one sense, therefore, it may be said of him that none had realized more than he the indispensability of the Throne as the pillar of the Japanese Empire, but that he had committed unpardonable offences in the manner in which he executed his cunning policy.

(To Be Continued)

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DISSENSION AROUSED IN IRAN PARLIAMENT

Members Flay Government's Empty Promises—No Food For People

D.N.B.

TRAPEZUNT, May 14.—Members of the Iranian Parliament are vigorously attacking the Government due to the poor organization of the food distribution system in Iran. A number of deputies complained that the population was not even in the position to acquire the most necessary foodstuffs.

Deputy Azati declared that the new budget was not in the interest of the people who were unable to bear the cost of the administration and unfortunately the Government did not seem to care at all for the requirements of the people who are becoming so dissatisfied that clashes occurred quite frequently.

The Premier admitted that a number of high officers had behaved toward the people in a shameful and very regrettable manner. Regarding the dissatisfaction of the various tribes, the Premier promised to do everything in his power to satisfy the population. To this, deputy Anfor replied that Parliament refused to be fed on promises and that it expected the fulfillment of Government promises.

THAI ECONOMIC MISSION HONORED AT RECEPTION

Bank of Japan Is Host to Vanich and Party—Trade Relations Discussed

Nai Vanich Pananananda, State Minister, and head of the Thai Economic Mission, and members of his suite who are now visiting in the capital were feted at a welcome party given under the auspices of the Bank of Japan at its head office on May 13, reports Domei.

Exchange of views between Toyotaro Yuki, Governor of the Bank of Japan, and the Thai guests regarding the strengthening of the economic relation between the two countries was held at the reception.

Obituary

Mr. EDWIN SHUTEUSACK

It is with deep regret that we announce the death on May 13 at the age of 31, at the Kitazato Hospital of Mr. Edwin Shuteusack.

The late Mr. Shuteusack was long connected with special Spanish editions of the Japan Times and Advertiser publications and the composer of recent crossword puzzle series in this paper. Unusually gifted and of supreme integrity, combining a keen intellect with rare artistic refinement, he will be deeply mourned by his many friends and those who had the privilege of cooperating with him in the fields of his varied activities from which he has been so rudely torn in the flower of his early manhood.

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Market Report: 11:30 a.m.; 4:30 p.m.
Music for workers: 2:30 p.m.
Program Announcement: 5:50 p.m.
Juvenile Hour: 10:00 a.m.

Saturday

— Morning —

6:30 Talk, "Growing Race," by Dr. Yasuma Takada; Recital of Patriotic Poems.
7:00 Time; News; Orchestra, "Poet and Peasant, Overture" (Suppe), Waltz "Arabian Nights" (J. Strauss), Opera, "Bohemia (Suppe) and "Spanish Dance No. 5" (Granados).
9:00 Wartime Housekeeping Hour: "The Ideological War and Home Front," by Kakusho Takada.
10:00 Juvenile Hour: Monologue, "The Bamboo Shoot," by Atsuko Funaki.
11:00 National School 1st and 2nd Class Hour: "Reports from the War Front," by Toshio Nishiyama.

— Afternoon —

12:30 Young Men's Japan Symphony Orchestra.
1:00 Narration by Announcer Oshima.
1:30 New Home Life Hour: "Wartime Food Problems," by Aya Kagawa.

— Evening —

6:00 Children's Hour: News; "Quiet and Noise," by Usaburo Taguchi.
6:20 7th Day of Sumo Tournaments, Relayed from Kokugikan Bowl, Ryogoku (Phonofilm).
6:35 Piano solo, by Chiyoko Miyauchi: "Turkish March" (Mozart) and "Rondo, Capriccio" (Beethoven).
6:50 Local News.
7:30 National Chorus: "The Song of the Memorial Tower."
8:00 Music and Play.
9:00 News.
10:00 Time; Today's War Situation; News; International Broadcast From Bangkok, Thailand.

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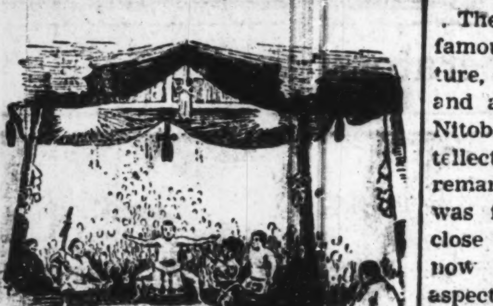
Yoshio Kimura, Chessking of Japan Looks at Wrestling With the Eyes of a Chess-player



The Ring and the Chess-board

When did I become a wrestling fan? Well, I was born in Honjo, and my father was a rabid wrestling fan himself. My father kept a "geta" shop, and the customers used to gather there and talk of nothing but wrestling.

At that time there were some great wrestlers, and everybody was talking about them. Honjo is the threshold of the Kokugikan, the center of wrestling, and my father being a wrestling fan, he used to neglect his business and talk of nothing but wrestling with his customers, who, on their part, came to the shop not to buy clogs, but to talk of wrestling with my father. When the wrestling season began, the shop fairly hummed—not with business, but with wrestling talk.

It was natural that I should become a wrestling fan myself, although I saw my first wrestling match much later, when my teacher took me to the Kokugikan, and I witnessed the giants of the ring battling for their laurels from the fourth row in the gallery.

I shall always remember the day when the Kokugikan caught fire, for the event took place on the day that my mother died. It was on the night of November 28, 1916. I was 13 years old at the time. I remember staring blankly at the red, leaping flames shooting up into the sky.

I do not have a good memory, but I well remember this one occasion. Wrestling was very popular at the time, and the papers used to issue extras concerning the results of the bouts. People used to make a scramble for these extras. The papers were full of pictures of the wrestlers.

The Asahi papers had particularly good pictures, and they also contained minute discriptions of each bout.

Under such conditions I became an ardent wrestling fan and took part in boys' wrestling matches. According to my father, I was a very strong wrestler for my size.

My father was born in Honjo and lived there for 43 years in the same house. We moved in recent years when it became necessary to take down the house to allow a tramway to pass over the site, but we still live in Honjo. You might call my father a veteran wrestling fan, for he knew old timers like Taiho and Araiwa.

The vicissitudes in the wrestling world are great, and the worst decline occurred at the time of the famous rift in the Wrestling Association, and immediately after the great earthquake of 1923.

Why did I become fond of wrestling? Well, call it environment. It was environment that made me take up chess. My grandfather and my father were good chess players, and probably I inherited the chess spirit. My chess opponent was my father.

My father, as I said before, was a rabid wrestling fan. He even took under his charge some young wrestlers with promising futures.

One of these youngsters was a young fellow who used to sell newspapers after leaving his Middle School. He had become ill, and lost weight until he weighed only 150 pounds. My father took a liking to him, and using his influence, made him a pupil of Kataotokonami, a prominent wrestler.

Kataotokonami was overjoyed, saying he had received a very promising pupil, and sent red rice and sake to our house as a token of his appreciation.

When this pupil became 21 years old, however, he was drafted, and enrolled in an artillery corps.

With such a father I could not help but become a wrestling fan myself. Recently, however, the bouts have become exceedingly close affairs, for the wrestlers are very well matched, and if I go to a wrestling match I have to disregard all my other affairs, for I cannot leave the Kokugikan until I have seen all the matches.

Also, the bouts have become lightning affairs. I am sure that those who see present-day matches for the first time will not be able to tell the winner from the loser. In olden days the wrestlers used to grapple in the middle of the ring, face to face, and the bouts lasted much longer. I suppose the wrestlers have learnt to use more brain-work, for their tactics are verily blitzkrieg tactics.

The wrestlers have become as swift as lightning. Perhaps this is a reflection of the times. Sometimes a well-matched bout takes place, with the decision hanging in the balance, and the spectators rise in their seats with clenched hands. The suspense seems to affect them more than the wrestlers themselves. If the bouts are long, however, the matches can never be finished in a single day.

I look at wrestling matches with the eye of a chess player. When the wrestlers enter the ring, sprinkle water and salt, and stamp their feet, it is the same as when a chess-player moves his first piece. When the wrestlers spring at each other the pieces have moved onto the middle of the chess-board. The final struggle for victory is when the king is in check. In wrestling as in chess there are close decisions, when victory or defeat is determined by just one move.

To me, looking at a wrestling match is like looking at a chess-board. In effect, wrestling as well as chess is a matter of making an effective general assault. It is like a total war.

Enthusiasm, spirit, fighting spirit, physical strength, speed, endurance, all must act in co-ordination to defeat the enemy. Not one of these must be missing, or else victory will not be achieved. Skill and science are necessary, but skill and science alone, will not bring victory.

Wrestling as well as chess depends on actual strength and merit. Age, fame, wealth, or rank do not count. The wrestling world, as well as the chess world, is a world where the laurels go to those who merit them. It is a world where if one does not take a step forward it is equivalent to having taken a step backward. Those who do not strive and improve themselves, fall backward. Those who strive and improve themselves, progress.

The ups and downs in such a world are tremendous. When Futabayama began to lose it was pitiful. But in such a world it was no use asking somebody else to do something for him. He had to train himself further till he became stronger. That was the only way.

What is the best way to become stronger? The best way is to wrestle with strong opponents as often as possible. If one is a chess player he should play with tough antagonists as often as possible. The number of bouts do not matter so much as their quality. They should be as hard as possible.

What is a good match? A good match is one which ends in a clean victory. When both men exert all their strength and do their best, the decision is bound to be a clean one. This is the secret of good matches, to do one's best.

I am sure wrestlers must think a lot about the tactics they are going to employ before they enter the ring. I think a lot in my chess games. People sometimes ask me what I am thinking about for such a long time. And yet, both in wrestling and chess, thinking is of vital importance.

In wrestling the body is the basic factor. Hishuzan is sometimes called a human cannon, although he is not very tall. It is no use being tall if one is not correspondingly strong. As I said before, wrestling is like a total war.

Furthermore, I think that wrestlers should have some specialty. That is, they should be proficient in some one particular throw. If they are experts in all the 48 throws then there is nothing left to be said. But I am sure there is no one who is such a wizard that he can be a perfect master of all the throws in wrestling.

Tachizan specialized in thrusts. He developed the art to such a high degree, and he was so strong, that he used to hurl his opponents out of the ring without allowing them to touch him. All strong wrestlers, in my opinion, should develop some such specialty.

When I witness a wrestling match I like to sit alone. However, this is impossible, and usually I have to exchange opinions with total strangers.

Wrestling has changed a lot in recent years. It has become swifter, and more modern. Futabayama represents a mixture of the old and the new. Akinoumi is a personification of the new spirit in wrestling. Maedayama is also modern. There is no weakness in his style, and he employs a semi-natural semi-scientific style.

Haguroyama and Itsushima are, like Futabayama, representatives of the old and the new. Terukuni also belongs to the same group. He has a pleasing style. Minanogawa may be looked upon as a representative of the old style, and he may also be looked upon as a representative of the new. His style is a mixture of the two.

In European chess the players do not use the pieces that have been taken.

In Japanese chess the pieces that have been taken are used again. It is like using prisoners of war.

Japanese chess exemplifies the spirit of Japan. The "kinsho" and the "hisha" are two of the most powerful pieces in Japanese chess. When one man takes these from his opponent he can use them again against his enemy.

The "hohei" corresponds to the pawn in European chess. It is no use guarding the "kinsho" and the "hisha" carefully if one neglects his "hohei." Victory will not come to such a player. Chess is like a total war, and all the pieces must be moved in co-ordination if final victory is to be achieved.

The Tears of Doctor Nitobe

Prof. Kokichi Morimoto an intimate friend of the late Dr. Inazo Nitobe, famous Exponent of Japanese Culture, reveals a touching episode in the great man's life.

The name of Dr. Inazo Nitobe, famous exponent of Japanese culture, is well known both at home and abroad. The greatness of Dr. Nitobe was due not only to his intellectual attainments, but also to his remarkably beautiful character. I was fortunate in having been his close friend, and it is my intention now to reveal those little known aspects of his private life that show him to have been a really great man, not only before men, but also before God.

Let us hark back to the time when Dr. Nitobe was making his last lecture tour in Hokkaido. I was at the time a member of his suite, and it was my duty to arrange the subjects and time-tables of his lectures at the various towns, and to take charge of all the details of the journey.

There were two conditions to which I had to conform. The first was that I should arrange his matters so that he could have a short afternoon nap every day. Dr. Nitobe used to divide his days into two parts, the dividing limit being the time he took his afternoon nap; he used to say that the ordinary day really was two days, as far as he was concerned.

The second condition was that he should have one day of absolute freedom to do as he liked while he stayed at Sapporo.

Dr. Nitobe gave his lectures night and day, and the program I had arranged was carried out according to schedule. The day of absolute freedom that Dr. Nitobe looked forward to so much at last arrived. I wondered what he was going to do.

Dr. Nitobe greeted me with smiles that morning, and said, "I am going to visit a sick person today, and after that pay my respects at the cemetery in Toyohira. Will you please come with me?"

The sick person in question was none other than old Miss Yamada, a servant who had been in the service of Dr. Nitobe for many years when he had been in Sapporo before.

Our car left the crowded section of the city, and entered a small lane that was empty of all traffic. The car stopped, and I stepped out with the present that Dr. Nitobe had bought on the way. After some searching I at last found the house that we were looking for.

"Miss Yamada, may I come in? Dr. Nitobe has come to see you," I said in a loud voice.

The aged patient greeted us with joy.

"Oh, this is indeed an overwhelming favor. I saw from the papers that Dr. Nitobe had come to this city, and I wanted to see him at least once. But as you see, I am confined to my bed. I had given up hopes of seeing him. Oh, he is too kind! It is so good of him to remember an insignificant person like me " the patient's voice broke, and she tried to get up from her bed.

Dr. Nitobe prevented her, saying, "Just lie as you are. I am glad to see you so well."

I wondered how long the tearful dialogue was going to continue, but the doctor, loth as he was to go, said his farewell firmly.

"Please get well soon. I'll see you again."

We entered the waiting car, and Dr. Nitobe said, "Well, I have done one of my duties. I was very glad to see her. Let us now go to the cemetery at Toyohira."

He lay back in his seat, with his eyes closed, as though in deep thought.

We passed over the splendid iron bridge of Toyohira, and our car sped smoothly along one of the roads that were jostling with trucks and horse-carts.

We turned to the right and came to the Toyohira Cemetery. The scenery here was beautiful. Dr. Nitobe got down from the car.

"I know this place better than you," he said. "Come on." And he led the way to a little plot of ground covered with green turf, and in the middle of which a single tombstone was standing. It was the grave of Dr. Nitobe's only child who had died only a few months after its birth.

Dr. Nitobe had come all the way from Tokyo and yet he did not offer any incense or flowers or water at the tomb. He plucked a few weeds growing in front of the tombstone, and stood there with bowed head.

I approached closer, and noticed that hot tears were rolling down his cheeks. More than flowers, more than incense, the tears were the noblest sign of love and sorrow that any father could show in front of the tombstone of his only child. He did not try to wipe off the tears, and they trickled down his cheeks and dropped down on to the turf. His tears surely must have penetrated the ground, and reached the remains of his child in the soil below.

A friend of the weak, Dr. Nitobe had all his life fought for those who could not fight for themselves and as I watched him then, a radiance seemed to emanate from him.

A father's tears before the humble tombstone of his child. It was the most beautiful ode in the world, I thought. I was more touched by the sight than when I first saw the "Angelus" by Millais.

"Come, let us go. I am sorry to have shown such weakness ..." Dr. Nitobe led the way back with sprightly steps, but soon his steps faltered.

"I am sorry to trouble you, but come with me to the grave again," he said to me. We went back silently, and he stood again as before in front of the tombstone with bowed head, bidding the farewell that he was so loth to bid.

The scenery around was inexpressibly beautiful. Tall elms reared their leafy heads against the sky, expressing the strength and beauty of nature.

One of the greatest men in the world, Dr. Inazo Nitobe, stood there with a prayer in his heart and tears on his checks. The sun was about to sink below the distant mountain of Teine, and the evening glow was like the bridal gown of some heavenly nymph. The gentle burbling of a brook close by was like the whisper of eternity, going on for ever and ever.

The most impressive afternoon of my life ended thus. It was a day of tears and joy and gratitude. We returned to our hotel, and found a crowd of children, of whom Dr. Nitobe was very fond, in front of the building, waiting to welcome him. The sky was gradually darkening, and faint twinkling points in the firmament showed that the stars were beginning to appear.

Samurai Coiffure

The Ashikaga period was an age of warfare when the samurai became the most important men in the country. In contrast to the miserable life of the common people the samurai swashbuckled on the highways and byways of the country.

Wars were frequent occurrences and the samurai had to be always prepared for battle. At any moment they had to jump into their armor and don their steel helmets.

It was usual for the samurai to remain bareheaded when they were not engaged in active warfare, so that they might, at any moment, don their steel helmets.

It was not uncommon for the warriors to keep on their helmets for long periods at a stretch. It can easily be imagined what agonies they would have suffered if they had long hair, and with a heavy steel covering on their head most of the time.

It was necessary to have some sort of ventilation, and the need was met by shaving off the forelock. Since hair takes a long time to grow, and since it was impossible for the hair to regain its original length immediately after the warrior returned from the battlefield to resume his normal duties at home, it became customary to keep the forelook shaved all the time.

This custom continued unbroken even after the period of warfare was ended, and continued right up to the end of the Yedo period. This shaven part of the head was called "sakayuki."

Thenceforth, all military men were hatless all the time, even when they took part in public offices. The remainder of the hair was gathered into a top-knot at the back of the head, and was called a "mage."

This samurai fashion spread to the common people, until every youth became bare-headed, with shaven forehead and a top-knot behind. This fashion continued for 300 years till the beginning of the Meiji Era. The court nobles, Confucian scholars, and physicians were exceptions, for they kept their locks intact.

Normally, every man used to go about bareheaded during the Yedo period, but during winter, or when traveling at night he would wear a zukin or cloth hood.

Travelers usually wore a kasa, a broad hat, which served as an umbrella on rainy days. The styles and materials of the hats varied with the wearers. The samurai wore "amigasa" or wicker hats, and the common people wore "suge-gasa" or sedge hats.

A Samurai of the Yedo Period

Rare Gems

The Right Man

Prof. Jugo Sugiura, a great scholar, during the reign of the great Emperor Meiji, was given the honored duty of acting as tutor to the Imperial Crown Prince, later the Emperor Taisho.

Professor Sugiura had two secretaries. One day the secretaries said to Prof. Sugiura, "We think that there are other scholars better fitted for this overwhelming duty than you. Perhaps you had better shift your duty to such scholars."

Prof. Sugiura listened quietly. Then he sat in front of the two secretaries, and said, "I agree with you. Speak out plainly without any reserve, and mention the names of the scholars you have in mind."

The secretaries at once mentioned the names of Arata Hamao and Kenjiro Yamakawa, both noted scholars.

"I think you have mentioned just the right persons," said the Professor with a look of satisfaction. "As a matter of fact I myself suggested that the very two scholars you have named should be appointed in my stead, but for some reason both of them begged to be excused from the assumption of such an honorable duty. That is why this overwhelming duty was conferred upon me."

There were tears in the old scholar's eyes as he continued, "Till today I have not received such plain-spoken advice from anyone Thank you very much."

When the two secretaries took their leave, he escorted them to the front door, and personally fetched their geta (wooden clogs) and arranged them before them. He then bid the two embarrassed secretaries a polite farewell. As the secretaries left the house they realized that they had been mistaken. There was no man better qualified in the whole empire for the honorable task of acting as tutor to the Imperial Crown Prince than Jugo Sugiura.

The Hidden Cap

Osachi Hamaguchi, former Premier, distinguished himself in his studies during his middle school days. He was such a brilliant student that he was promoted from the Third Grade to the Fifth Grade when he was a pupil in the Kochi Prefecture Middle School.

He excelled in sports as well as in studies, and was the possessor of a splendid physique.

Yoshinari Hamaguchi, later his foster-father, heard the fame of Osachi, and made up his mind to adopt him as his foster-son. He therefore visited the school with the object of seeing Osachi.

Yoshinari came with a close friend of Osachi's family, and stood near the gates of the school, waiting for Osachi to appear. It was still early, and Osachi had not yet arrived.

Presently Osachi came walking up the road leading to the school. He was bare-headed, but as he came to the entrance he suddenly put his hand into his bosom, and pulling out his school-cap, he hastily put it on his head. He then went into the school.

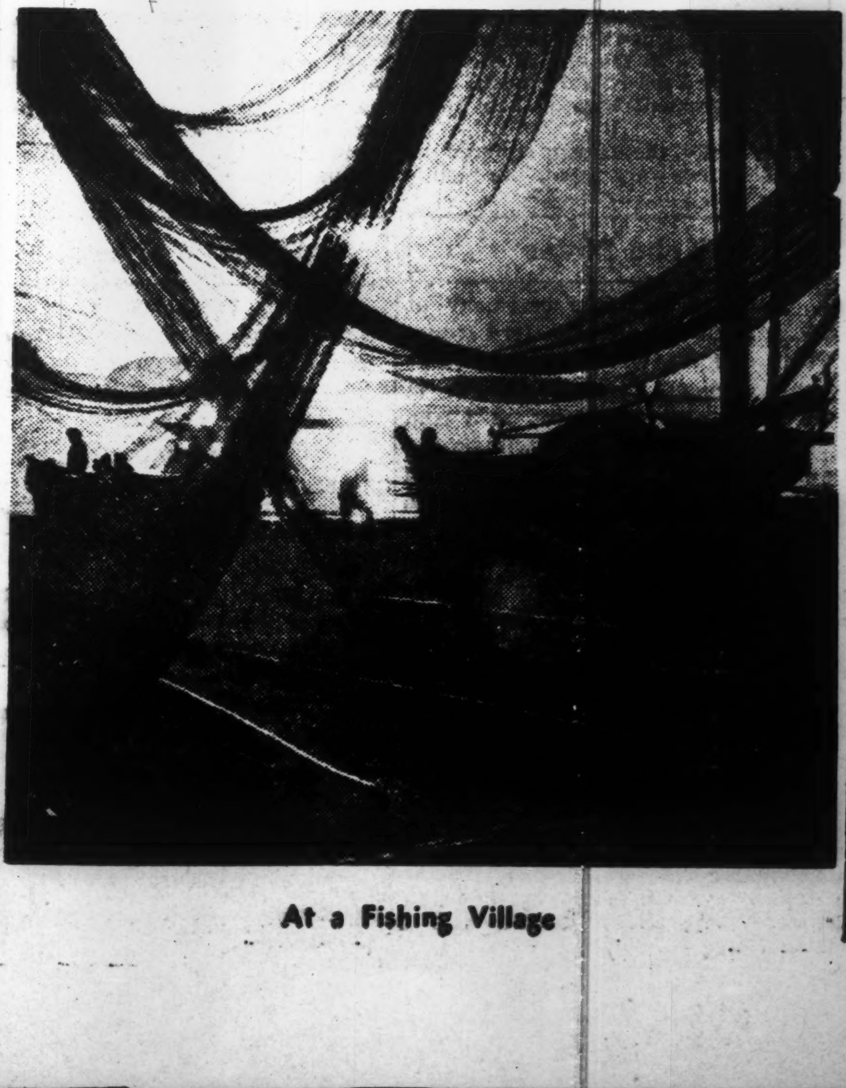
According to the school rules, Osachi had to wear a cap with several red and white stripes round it. The stripes were given by the school authorities as a sign of their appreciation of his brilliant achievements in his studies.

Most students would have been proud to wear such caps, but Osachi was too modest, and he hated to show himself off. That was why he hid his cap in his bosom whenever he was outside the school grounds.

Yoshinari was impressed by the youth's modesty, and determined more than ever that Osachi should become his adopted son. His petition was granted, and when Osachi returned home for his winter vacation after entering the Third Higher School, he was legally transferred to the Hamaguchi family, and became the foster-son of Yoshinari Hamaguchi.

The Return of Summer

At the Beach



At a Fishing Village

With Our Dramatic Critic

Matsugoro Tomijima

A remarkable play entitled "The Life of Matsugoro Tomijima" and given by the Bungakuza troupe is now on at the Kokumin Shin Gekijo in Tsukiji, Kyobashi-ku. The stage-director of the play is Ton Satomi, a prominent novelist. Kisaku Ito, brother of Michio Ito, a world-famous stage-dancer, is the stage manager.

The play is based upon a novel written by Shunsaku Iwashita and dramatized by Kaoru Morishita. Its scene is Kokura city in northern Kyushu and the period represented is from the late Meiji Period to the early Taisho Period. It comprises five acts and covers two hours and a half. The plot of the play is as follows:

Matsugoro Tomijima, a rickshaman, who is uneducated and rough but naive in heart, happens to become acquainted with Captain Yoshioka, Mrs. Yoshioka and their only son Toshio of 11 years.

Fully confidant in the character of Tomijima, Captain Yoshioka asks him to take care of his wife and son when he is sent to the front. After Captain Yoshioka suddenly dies of pneumonia, the rickshaman devotedly cares for the bereaved family. Meanwhile, his admiration and respect toward the pretty and chaste widow turns into love, which he barely suppresses in the depths of his heart.

Twenty years pass by. During this period, Tomijima devotes himself to supporting the widow and her son. One day, he calls on Mrs. Yoshioka and the two converse recollecting the long years in the past, Tomijima praising her for her firmness and the widow thanking him for his constant moral support. In the course of the conversation, the rickshaman, driven by uncontrollable love toward Mrs. Yoshioka, almost reaches the point of confessing it, but the widow prevents him.

After this, Tomijima confines himself in his lodging-house, never visiting the Yoshiokas. He indulges himself in drinking which he has given up since he had become acquainted with them. Not long after that, he dies in solitude and poverty.

It is later learned that he has left two deposit-books, one with a deposit of some ¥300 for Toshio, and another with a deposit of some ¥200 for Mrs. Yoshioka.

As the author of the original novel says, the story is of a man who passed his life utterly unknown to the world and died in solitude, though he received the heroine's tears of gratitude mingled with Platonic affection at his death bed. And naturally the story is a least "dramatic" one.

However, the pure, naive affection in the heart of such an uneducated and rough man as Tomijima, is beautiful, and induces the people to whole-hearted sympathy. Indeed, the rickshaman spent his life in solitude and poverty with his naive love as his only guiding light and consolation. His was a life of heart-gripping self-sacrifice.

The Bungakuza is worthy of praise in that this troupe adopted this "undramatical" drama and made it a successful play. The play is specially to be marked as a new attempt freed from the conventional color of the "Modern School Drama" which has hitherto retained more or less the tradition of the leftist movement.

Sadao Maruyama, who takes the role of the hero of the play, is a veteran actor who has long been devoting himself in the "Modern School Drama." His performance, though denounced by some people as exaggerative when in moving pictures, leaves nothing more to be desired in this play.

Haruko Sugimura, also a veteran actress in the "Modern School Drama," gives full play to her talent and experience in acting the difficult role of the heroine.

It is to be marked that, beside their skillful performance, these two players are excellent in vocalization. This merit is attributable simply to their painstaking practice of many years past. Other players should learn much from them in vocalization especially when country dialect is spoken in the play.

Besides, the play successfully displays the peculiar local color of Kokura, with the peculiar Kyushu dialect, the local customs and manners as represented in the festival scene in the third act, thereby making itself the more enjoyable.

Attention must be called, however to the bad effects caused by the unnecessary additions which the scenario writer inserted in adapting the novel for a play. The didactic lecture on human character, for example, which Captain Yoshioka gives to his son in the second act, serves nothing but to make the audience feel that something unacceptable and unfitted to the natural progress of the play has been forcibly inserted. The remarks made by Toshio in the fourth act concerning the detestable policy of the United States in the first World War, also leaves a bad impression in the minds of the audience.

If the author, dramatist or the stage-director thinks that he can successfully give the literary or theatrical production the tint of the so-called "national drama" by adding some didactic idea, it is an enormous fallacy.

He must bear in mind that the human mind is sensible enough to scent what is forcibly added where it is not needed and that such unnecessary insertions detract from the value of the play and sometimes totally destroy the drama which might be a perfect and enjoyable one if such measures are not employed.

(The same play will be continued till May 21 beginning at 6 p.m. every day, with matinee from 1 p.m. on May 16 and 17.)

In the Periodicals

Japan Times Weekly & Trans-Pacific, Vol. XII, No. 2 dated May 14, 1942 (in English). Publishers, the Japan Times Ltd., Tokyo. Price 40 sen: illustrated. The Weekly is featured by a 4-page supplement entitled "The Next Objective," containing the full text of a lengthy statement issued by Colonel Nakao Yahagi, Chief of the Press Section of the Imperial Headquarters, last week, describing the effect of the Japanese operations in Burma on the Chiang Army. The leading articles: Battle of the Coral Sea, Warm Welcome Marks Visit of Thai Mission, New Agreement Sets Yen Basis With Thai, Imperial Troops Land on Christmas Island, Corregidor Falls! Where Japan Excels, Problems of South, The Japanese Navy, Revival of India, Britain Needs Ships, 'Skilful Deception,' Tolerance, and Road to Co-Prosperity.

Bungei Nippon, Vol. 4, No. 5, May, 1942 in (Japanese). Publishers, the Bungei Nippon-sha, Tokyo. Price 40 sen. Feature articles: The Spirit of Literary Art by Michitsugu Sato; the Oriental Sense of History by Tadao Tanaka; Highlights of a Round-Table Conference on the Form of Historical Succession and Literature; and Essay on Art by Juppo Araki.

MINISTRY TO SURVEY HOARDED MATERIALS

Transfer of Idle Commodities to Management Corporation Encouraged

ALL RESOURCES MOBILIZED

Contemplated Action Must Have Wholehearted Cooperation Of People

With the object of mobilizing all hoarded and idle materials for the expansion of Japan's productive capacity, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided to conduct a thorough-going investigation of stocks of 90 key commodities and launch a movement to encourage the transfer by sale of these idle materials to the Important Commodities Management Corporation which was established early this spring as a national-policy agency to put key articles on a planned management.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry is asking for the wholehearted cooperation of manufacturers and traders in the smooth carrying out of the survey as well as the elimination of hoarded and idle materials throughout Japan Proper, pointing out that the new action aims at nothing but the utilization of important commodities for the prosecution of the national policies. On the occasion of the announcement of the Commerce and Industry Ministry's plan, the Justice Ministry issued a statement to the effect that it will not take advantage of the contemplated investigation to expose the undercover transactions. Since the authorities have no legal backings in the enforcement of the survey, its success is understood wholly to depend on the support of the people.

Will Buy Idle Materials

Designated idle commodities will be purchased at the head office and branches of the Important Commodities Management Corporation as well as industrial control associations and manufacturers and traders organizations which were appointed Thursday by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. According to the regulations concerning this matter issued Thursday by the Ministry, all those who hold idle materials are requested to submit the detailed account of these goods to the organizations mentioned above or chambers of commerce and industry and then on the basis of these reports the purchase will be made by the corporation, as a matter of principle, at the market prices. Priorities will reportedly be granted to those who observe the movement in the future distribution of materials.

The list of commodities which will be bought by the Important Commodities Management Corporation includes pig iron, iron tubes, rails, iron and steel bar, iron and various steel materials, tin plate, hoop iron, nails, galvanized iron wire, galvanized iron plate, special steel, ferro-tungsten steel, ferro-molybdenum steel, copper, zinc, lead, antimony, aluminum, magnesia, cobalt rare metals, goods made of these materials, mica, asbestos, hides and leathers, raw wool, woolen textiles, cotton yarn, cotton goods, blankets, carpets, Chili saltpeter, alcohol, casein, glycerine, and rosin.

Ministry Statement

The statement of the Commerce and Industry Ministry which was issued Thursday simultaneously with the announcement of the investigation and purchase of idle materials follows in substance:

"Since it is urgently necessary to mobilize all resources existing in this country to operate the war economy as smoothly as possible thereby to bring the current war to a glorious conclusion, the newly-established Important Commodities Management Corporation is now driving toward the increase of important commodities at home and the utilization of them on a planned management system. On the occasion of the formation of the corporation, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided to investigate thoroughly and purchase idle materials being hoarded by manufacturers and traders in an endeavor to improve the efficiency of the utility of key materials.

"The contemplated action, however, can not be successfully carried out merely by the efforts of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and other Government offices but the wholehearted cooperation on the part of the people is quite necessary."

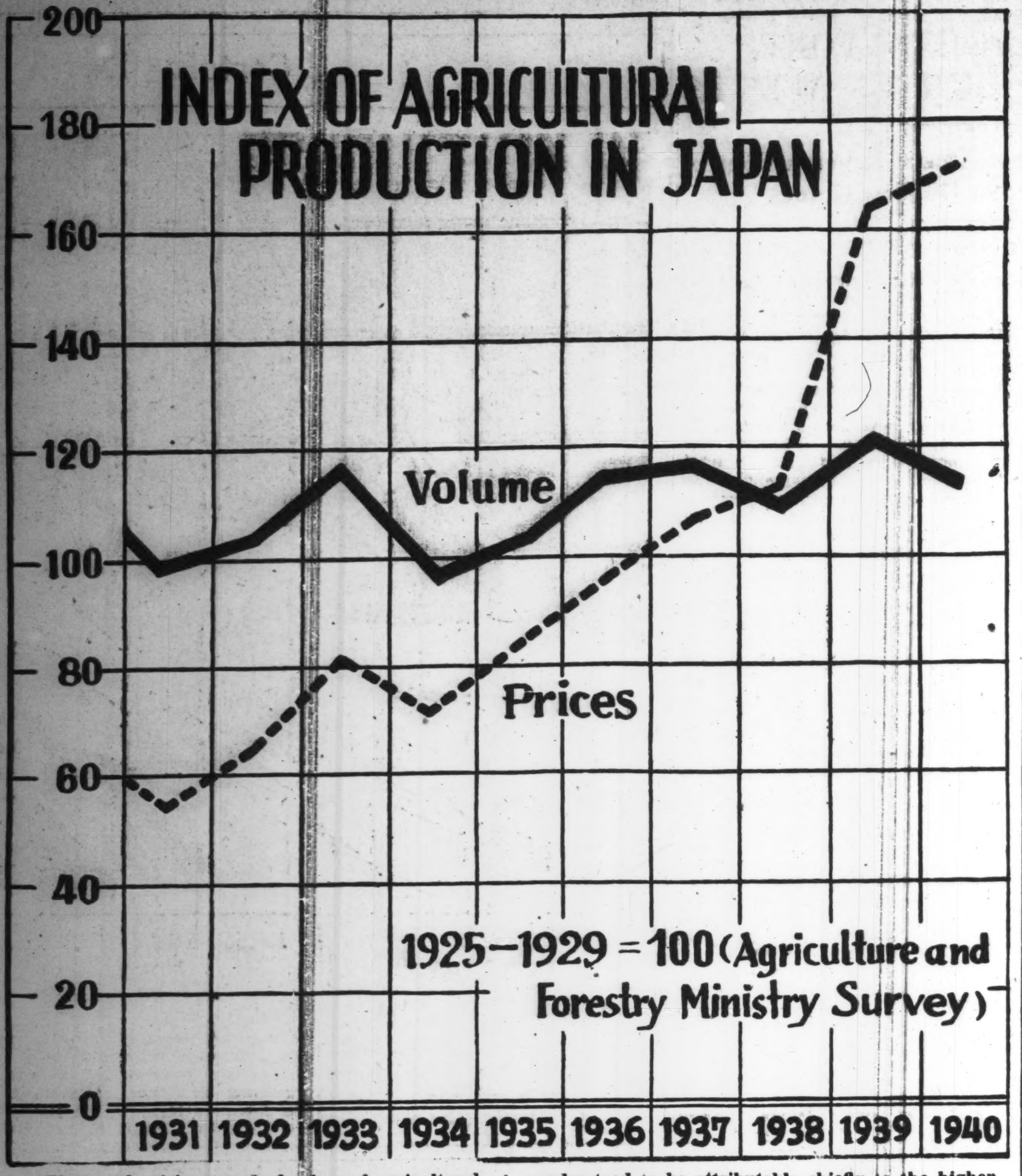
COPRA OIL MIXED IN SOAP

Up to 50 Per Cent Can Be Used for Toilet Soap

The maximum percentages of copra oil mixtures hitherto put in practice for soap production are quoted by the Nippon Kogyo Shimbun as follows:

20% for toilet soap
30% for laundry soap
60% for powder soap

According to the researches conducted by the authorities and civilian experts concerned in anticipation of the bulky supply of this oil from the southern areas, it has been revealed that copra oil can be mixed up to 50% for toilet soap and that the percentages of mixtures for laundry soap and powder soap can be raised by approximately 20%. It is expected that the summer schedule of soap production will be performed according to these percentages of copra oil mixtures, adds the journal.



The steady rising trend of prices of agricultural products since the onset of the China Affair has greatly improved the financial condition of farmers so that the suspension of silk shipment to the United States following the American freezing of Japanese assets has not affected rural economy even to a slight degree. The upward curve is understood to be attributable chiefly to the higher prices of grains, vegetables and milk goods. Prices of rice, the staple food of the Japanese, however, showed a sharp decline during 1940. The production curve took a zigzag course from the start of the Manchuria incident up to 1940, but the general tone continued upward.

BUSINESSMEN SEEK NEW LIAISON BODY

Projected Committee to Be Composed of Financiers and Industrialists

For the purpose of further smoothening the operation of war economy in this country, a movement is now being launched among various circles concerned to create a liaison organization between financiers and industrialists on the occasion of the approaching completion of the new financial structure which is expected to be realized when the National Monetary Control Association is established on May 23, with legal backings to be provided in accordance with the Monetary Control Organizations Ordinance, says the Asahi.

Following the formation of the Commercial Banks and the Local Banks Control Associations on May 11, similar agencies for savings banks, security underwriters and trust firms have already been inaugurated and the remaining control organizations for this line will also be established in several days. The Savings Banks Control Association's chairman of the board of directors is Heitaro Okamoto, former director of the Investigation Bureau of the Bank of Japan; the Security Underwriters Control Association is headed by Junichiro Nishimura, former Vice-Minister of Finance and Commerce of the Manchoukuo Government; and the Trust Control Association by Yukio Imamura, chairman of the board of directors of the Sumitomo Trust Company.

Other Liaison Bodies

Some economic leaders have recently proposed the creation of a liaison committee between monetary and industrial circles and this proposal is now being supported by an increasing number of businessmen. According to the plan being considered by these promoters, members of the projected committee will include managing directors of the Iron and Steel, Coal, Mining and Machinery Control Associations, chairman of the board of directors of the Commercial Banks, Trust and Life Insurance Control Associations; governor of the Bank of Japan; governor of the Industrial Bank of Japan; president of the Yokohama Specie Bank; as well as presidents of the National Monetary Control Association, Wartime Financing Bank and Industrial Equipment Corporation.

Meanwhile, the Asahi also reports that a new high record was set in the balance of deposits in savings banks at the end of last month. The balance as of April 30 was registered at ¥6,225,725,525 which shows an increase of ¥161,637,713 in comparison with the figure for the previous month, as shown in the following table: (In ¥1,000. Minus signs denote decrease)

	April Balance	Increase over March
Ordinary savings	1,540,229	27,679
Deferred savings	2,797,916	116,175
Fixed savings	1,865,782	18,201
Fixed deposits	20,886	—470
Others	909	44
Total	6,225,725	161,630

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	132.0	— .60
N.Y.K., new, short-term	85.9	— .80
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	97.3	— .70
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.5	— .05

PLANS AGREED UPON FOR SOUTH TRAFFIC

Southern Economic Conference Outlines Program for Land, Sea, Air Navigation

Ever since the formation of the Traffic Committee, headed by Chairman Yasuji Shimizu, concurrently president of the Toa Kaiun Steamship Company, under date of January 17, the Southern Economic Conference has been in touch with the members of this committee in connection with the projected extension of their business to the southern areas, according to a local daily.

It is said that a final program was discussed and agreed upon in the course of the meeting on May 14, which was joined by the directors and general members of the committee, and that they took this matter up with the authorities concerned. The three major items covered by the program are seafaring traffic, land traffic and air navigation, and communications. The paper outlines these items as follows:

(1) A trunk railway line shall be built to connect China, French Indo-China, Thailand and Malaya for the purpose of linking the important points in Greater East Asia, with a possible extension later to Burma and India.

(2) Due respect shall be paid to the existing state of, and materials required for the maintenance, of railway lines in the southern areas irrespective of their comparative insignificance at present except for those operated in Java.

(3) Land traffic efficiency shall be enhanced in the southern areas with the utilization of splendid roads in these areas aggregating 572,000 kilometers in length. In view of the prospective formation of close relations between Australia and the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere at a future date, it is possible that the huge number of automobiles now used in Australia, New Zealand and India, respectively estimated at 808,500; 276,000 and 123,000, may be mobilized for smooth transportation of materials in the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

(4) Negotiations shall be conducted between the Southern Economic Conference and the Southern Development Bank as well as the Foreign Trade Control Association with regard to funds required and the research needed for a considerable replenishment of automobile parts that should be turned out for making cars and trucks needed in the southern areas.

UPWARD TREND SEEN ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Atmosphere on Market Cheerful Over News of Developments On European Front

Cement Industrials and part of the power wares firmed up in the long-term market and a buying sentiment of Dai-Nippon Beer, new, was noticeable in the short-term. Many stocks, however, marked time, although the floor well-received bullish factors such as the development of the European front favorable to Germany and the news of the organization of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

In the long-term section, Japan Electric Industry stepped up ¥0.20, Ebigawa Electric ¥1.50, Asano Cement ¥1.10, its new ¥0.20 and Iwaki Cement ¥0.80. The report that cement prices will be raised considerably in the near future stimulated the buying feeling of cement wares. The upward swing of Ebigawa Electric is understood to be attributable to an indication that the capital of the firm will be boosted before long.

The atmosphere of spinning and heavy industrials, generally speaking, was less bright than that of power and cement issues, but Kureha Spinning rose ¥0.60, Ama Spinning ¥0.40, Niigata Iron Works, new, ¥0.70, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries ¥0.70, Hitachi Iron Works ¥0.30, Dai-Nippon Arms ¥0.70, and Special Steel Tubing ¥0.30.

Afternoon closing prices of important wares in the short-term market are as follows: Tokyo Exchange, new, ¥132.00, N.Y.K. ¥99.90, its new ¥85.90, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥153.60, its new ¥97.30 and Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥90.00.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

	Clos.		June	July
First Section				
Fuji Spinning (50)	65.3	d .4	64.7	65.1
Do. new (25)	37.0	d .1	36.4	36.9
Kanegafuchi Sp (50)	153.2	d .8	152.0	153.1
Do. new (25)	97.1	d1.0	97.4	98.3
Tei'ku Rayon n (37½)	90.2	d .6	88.2	88.3
Tokyo Rayon (50)	42.7	d1.1	42.1	42.2
Toyo Rayon, new (50)	72.5	d .9	71.7	72.2
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	101.0	d .9	101.0	101.7
Do. new (37½)	86.6	d .9	87.1	87.4
O. S. K (50)	93.3	d .4	93.4	92.4
Do. new (37½)	92.5	d .5	93.0	....
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	82.3	d .2	....	82.3
Uraga Dock (50)	96.9	d .1	96.7	97.7
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	[illegible]8.9	u .5	81.3	82.2
Hitachi Works (50)	....	u .3	....	75.1
Third Section				
S. M. R. (50)	71.2	u .2	....	71.1
Japan Fa[illegible] (50)	68.3	u .1	67.0	67.4
Japan Automobile Ind	....	....	74.6	75.1
Ikegai Automobile Ind.	....	....	67.2	68.2
Japan Piston Ring	79.0	d .9	79.5	79.0
Kotobuki Heavy Ind.	....	u .1	63.4	64.2
Japan Nickel	49.7	u .3	49.6	49.9
Furukawa Industry	120.3	d .6	118.1	119.1
Mitsubishi Machinery	129.8	d .7	....	....

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
Second 5%	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00
First 4—	102.95	102.95	102.95	102.95

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock, new	132.3	132.5	132.1	132.0
N. Y. K., old	100.5	100.5	99.6	99.9
N. Y. K., new	86.3	86.3	85.7	85.9
Kanegafuchi Spin.	154.0	154.0	153.7	153.6
Do. new	97.6	97.6	97.2	97.3
Teikoku Rayon, n.	90.4	90.4	90.0	90.0
Osaka Stock, new	72.1	72.1	72.0	72.1
Japan Steel Tube	74.1	74.1	73.6	73.7
Japan Oil	76.8	78.8	76.6	76.6
S. M. Railway	71.4	71.4	71.4	71.4
Mitsubishi Heavy	108.6	108.4	108.3	108.3
Hitachi Works	74.5	74.4	74.4	74.4
Japan Mining	58.9	....	....	58.9
Manchuria Ind	59.7	....	....	59.7

MACHINE INDUSTRY MAKES HUGE STRIDE

Industrial Production Increased By Leaps and Bounds Since China Affair

Favored with the war boom since the outbreak of the China Affair, the machine manufacturing industry of this country increased by leaps and bounds, the May edition of the Diamond reports. The trade journal report in part follows:

With the ever increasing military demand for machinery of all kinds since the outbreak of the China Affair the production of machinery in this country increased by many times over the production figure for the year 1936, according to the investigations made by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Consequent upon the great changes that have taken place in the international situation and with the China Affair becoming long drawn-out, the machinery industry of Japan has been concentrated upon essential and urgent war requirements, such as machines for building ships, planes and automobiles. The production indices prepared by the Commerce and Industry Ministry for machinery are as follows:—

The first half of 1936	207.3
The latter half of 1936	221.1
The first half of 1937	251.6
The first half of 1938	291.2
The latter half of 1938	295.3
The first half of 1939	295.5
The latter half of 1939	291.4
The first half of 1940	286.6

(N.B.—The index figures of the Commerce and Industry Minister includes iron and steel production, as well as electric power for the years following 1938.)

Machinery Output Big

Accordingly, the above figures for the years after 1938 do not indicate the production of machinery only, but a great increase in the output of machinery was witnessed in the years between 1936 and 1938.

The production of machinery for shipbuilding as seen from the capital investments are as follows:

Capital Invested in Shipbuilding Machinery Industry

	Total amount capital	Paid capital	Average paid capital
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)		
First half, 1936	920.5	415.5	381.9
Latter half, 1936	983.4	414.4	402.9
First half, 1937	1,201.4	494.7	454.3
Latter half, 1937	1,560.7	579.9	539.9
First half, 1938	1,911.8	711.7	637.1
Latter half, 1938	2,373.7	787.0	760.1
First half, 1939	2,776.9	869.5	832.9
Latter half, 1939	3,418.6	1,032.3	970.0
First half, 1940	3,821.1	1,378.5	1,195.1
Latter half, 1940	4,633.5	1,485.6	1,423.9
First half 1941	5,341.2	1,604.2	1,558.0

It will be seen from the foregoing tabulation that the total amount of paid capital increased by three times in the year 1941 as compared with that of the year 1936, while the total amount of capital increased by five times, taking into consideration the appreciation in prices in general. This great increase in the capital invested in the shipbuilding machinery industry is naturally due to the increased war requirements. However, the rate of increase in the capital followed a declining tendency with the peak reached in the year 1940, which reflects the effect of the Government control on capital and the fact that the various machine manufacturing factories have now been turned into a vast high efficiency organization on the basis of the Government's priority system.

In view of the fact that the machinery industry holds an important position in all the wartime industries of Japan, the evil of making poor quality goods could not be permitted, and for this reason strict control began to be effected in the manufacture of machinery. The amount of depreciation of frozen assets in the machinery industry is also very great as compared with some of the other industries, and the following tabulation indicates the sound and healthy progress now being made by the machinery industry of Japan:—

Composition of Assets

	Frozen assets	(%)	Circulat'g assets	(%)
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)			
First hf., 1936	300.0	32.5	607.4	65.9
Latter hf., 1936	306.1	31.1	658.8	67.0
First hf., 1937	336.7	28.0	834.4	69.4
Latter hf., 1937	391.9	25.1	1,210.7	71.9
First hf., 1938	454.1	23.7	1,401.8	73.3
Latter hf., 1938	540.7	22.8	1,762.4	74.3
First hf., 1939	661.2	23.8	2,033.4	73.2
Latter hf., 1939	722.7	20.9	2,625.2	76.1
First hf., 1940	839.6	21.9	2,863.4	75.1
Latter hf., 1940	942.8	20.3	3,551.1	76.6
First hf., 1941	1,022.8	19.1	4,107.1	76.8

The profits of the machinery industry have skyrocketted during the past five years as witness the following table of profits:—

	Profit	Pct. of profit	Pct. dividends
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)		
First half, 1936	38.4	1.99	0.82
Latter half, 1936	40.9	1.99	0.83
First half, 1937	52.8	2.23	0.88
Latter half, 1937	51.9	1.93	1.00
First half, 1938	65.1	2.05	0.83
Latter half, 1938	78.5	2.06	0.84
First half, 1939	90.8	2.20	0.97
Latter half, 1939	110.8	2.27	0.92
First half, 1940	122.7	2.05	0.83
Latter half, 1940	138.6	1.98	0.81
First half, 1941	149.2	1.93	0.82

New Electricity Tariff

With a view to simplifying procedures for applications to be filed with the authorities concerned for electric power supplies on a contract basis and to unifying charges for power consumption, the Electricity Board has been working on a new tariff of electric rates to be charged by the newly-organized electric supplying companies, according to the Nippon Kogyo. The new tariff was expected to be circulated among the power supplying companies upon approval by the Communications Minister on Thusday.

Indonesians Look Forward to Prosperity Under New Era of Japanese Military Rule

Surveying the undreamt-of ordeals experienced by the 70,000,000 Indonesians during the past two months and recollecting the unbearable servitude to which they have been subjected for the past four centuries, a Nichi Nichi correspondent at Batavia furnishes us with an account of his personal observations during his travels in the East Indies, pointing out, among other things, the consciousness of the natives regarding the brutal exploitation of their own resources hitherto carried on by the Dutch and their growing aspiration for the creation of an autarchy in their homeland.

The gist of the correspondent's observations follow:

Ignorance of Natives Pitiful

"Very few of the natives have ever had a chance to see a world atlas. This is due to the laugh-provoking artifice that the Netherlands Government has resorted to in order to keep the natives ignorant of the position their motherland holds in the world. Thanks to the progress of the current war of Greater East Asia, however, they now have the privilege of studying a world atlas. With the atlas unfolded before them, they are now convinced of the true meaning of the War of Greater East Asia. They are now allowed to listen in to the radio news reporting minute by minute the significant operations of the Japanese Forces. From the newspapers that they have been allowed to read for the first time they have learned that they can never expect to create an Elysian for themselves till the successful conclusion of the War of Greater East Asia.

"In the course of a round-table conference held recently by the Batavia office of the Nichi Nichi, the influential native leaders unanimously expressed their views to the effect that they are ever ready to go through any hardships and to sacrifice everything till Japan scores a decisive victory in the current war. On the other hand, the shouts of Banzai for His Majesty the Emperor on the occasion of Tenchosetsu (April 29) seemed to sound louder and more significant than the cheers they gave when they greeted the Japanese landing forces on their soil.

Dutch Cajoled by U.S., Britain

"The industrial organization in the East Indies has hitherto been manipulated by the United States and Britain, rather than the Netherlands, from a selfish motive to corner the local products, for it is the former two countries that have cleverly and freely cajoled the Dutch people behind the scenes. The most conspicuous illustration of this fact may be seen in the Anglo-American avarice for tin, rubber, aromatic stuff and coffee. This avarice on the part of the U.S. and Britain has caused the production of necessaries of the 70,000,000 natives to be extremely restricted, and the production of certain items have been totally forbidden, by the colonial Government.

"As for petroleum products, which constitute an important item of popular necessities, America and Britain have not been over-pleased with the natives' investments for the development of the rich oil deposits which are estimated to aggregate 3,000,000,000 barrels.

"The fact is, the annual production of petroleum in the East Indies remains as small as 3 per cent of the world production. This is a manifestation of the self-centered policies on the part of the Anglo-American administrators by reason of plentiful oil production in their colonies as well as their homeland.

Minor Industries in Bad State

"Despite the wealth of resources and sufficient labor for minor industries in the East Indies, there are no signs of marked improvement in these industries. In consequence, the density of the native population remains in an abnormal state with the resultant disturbance of balances in the matter of commodity distributions, for which the Anglo-American selfishness is likewise responsible.

"Thus it is concluded that the ever-thirsty British and Americans have for many decades sucked the blood of the 70,000,000 natives in the East Indies merely to enrich the Anglo-American storehouses. Due, however, to the stoppage of trade relations between their homelands and this part of the country consequent to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the natives are now confronted with the complete loss of autarchy for their own livelihood. They are, as a matter of course, coveting the reorganization of their industries on a sound basis with the aid of the Japanese administrators so as to ensure a sufficient production of their necessities."

REVISED NAVIGATION RULING GIVES MINISTRY AUTHORITY

Ordinance Has Three-Fold Object for Readjustment of Shipping Enterprises

With the three-fold object (1) of readjusting the various shipping enterprises, (2) of carrying out the large-scale shipbuilding program, and (3) of gaining mastery of world-wide shipping, the Government published a comprehensive revision of the Navigation Control Ordinance as appearing in the Official Gazette of May 15, reports the Chugai Shogyo. It is understood that the revised ordinance took effect the same day the revised ordinance was promulgated (May 15).

According to the revised ordinance, the Communications Minister has been invested with the following authority, including the control of seafaring traffic, shipbuilding industries, salvage, ship chandlers' business, etc. as well as the proper readjustment of the shipping enterprises, adds the Chugai.

1. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to transfer or make loans of equipments, materials or business rights to other parties.

2. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to contribute equipment or business rights.

3. The minister shall be authorized not only to order the use, consumption or ownership of materials but also to restrict or prohibit the transfer, consumption, possession, etc. of materials.

4. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to build or make repairs to vessels.

5. The minister shall be authorized not only to order shipping interests to undertake business on a commission basis and to engage in joint enterprises but also to order the merger of companies concerned.

6. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to abolish or suspend their enterprises.

7. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to determine or revise the monetary value of vessels.

Bill Clearings

May 15
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	234,138	160,303
Balance	26,239	19,905

The Bank of Taiwan
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Established 1899
President: Yakichi Suitsu, Esq.
Vice-President: Masahiko Wada, Esq.
Directors:
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Hyotaro Motohashi, Esq.
Tozo Hirano, Esq.
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HEAD OFFICE: Taipeh
TOKYO BRANCH:
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F. Tadaki, Esq. Manager
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Nagoya Branch: Minami-Otsu-dori, Naka-ku

MINISTRY ALTERS PRICE OF 9 ALCOHOLIC PRODUCTS

Increase Range From 5 to 20 Per Cent Compared With Previous Quotations

To cope with the increasing prices of materials used in alcohol manufactures and the suspension of imports of alcoholic products, the Commerce and Industry Ministry announced Thursday, the advance in prices of acetone and eight other alcoholic products.

The revision of the prices was gazetted May 14 by Commerce and Industry Ministry Ordinance No. 556. The new prices, which took effect immediately, represent an advance ranging from five to 20 per cent compared with the past prices.

Details follow:

Revised Maximum Prices of Alcoholic Products (Effective May 14)

	New Prices (In Yen per 1 kg.)
Acetone	1.76
Butanol	2.54
Methyl Acetate	1.21
Acetic Ether	1.38
Buthyl Acetate	2.88
Fusel Acetate	3.35
Amyl Acetate	4.20
Methyl Acetone	1.38
Secondary Butanol	*1.07

*Maximum sale price by Japan Solvents Joint Sales Company.

Bill Clearings Increase

Bill clearings in Japan during April totalled 3,375,714 bills valued at ¥118,167,020, representing an increase of ¥4,157,510 in value but a recession of 226,828 bills in transactions as compared with March, according to a survey by the Tokyo Clearing House, reports Domei.

The Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited.
Established 1880
Capital, Paid-up .. ¥100,000,000
Reserve Fund ¥145,000,000
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VICE-PRESIDENTS:
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S. ARAKAWA
DIRECTORS:
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H. Kashiwagi — C. Arima
Baron Koyata Iwasaki — K. Nishi
J. Okada
Baron I. Morimura — S. Asada
K. Kodama
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Office: .... 1, 1-chome, Uchisaiwai-cho, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo
Publisher and Printer: .... MASAO TAKAHASHI

MINISTRY TO SURVEY HOARDED MATERIALS

Transfer of Idle Commodities to Management Corporation Encouraged

ALL RESOURCES MOBILIZED

Contemplated Action Must Have Wholehearted Cooperation Of People

With the object of mobilizing all hoarded and idle materials for the expansion of Japan's productive capacity, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided to conduct a thorough-going investigation of stocks of 90 key commodities and launch a movement to encourage the transfer by sale of these idle materials to the Important Commodities Management Corporation which was established early this spring as a national-policy agency to put key articles on a planned management.

The Commerce and Industry Ministry is asking for the wholehearted cooperation of manufacturers and traders in the smooth carrying out of the survey as well as the elimination of hoarded and idle materials throughout Japan Proper, pointing out that the new action aims at nothing but the utilization of important commodities for the prosecution of the national policies. On the occasion of the announcement of the Commerce and Industry Ministry's plan, the Justice Ministry issued a statement to the effect that it will not take advantage of the contemplated investigation to expose the undercover transactions. Since the authorities have no legal backings in the enforcement of the survey, its success is understood wholly to depend on the support of the people.

Will Buy Idle Materials

Designated idle commodities will be purchased at the head office and branches of the Important Commodities Management Corporation as well as industrial control associations and manufacturers and traders organizations which were appointed Thursday by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. According to the regulations concerning this matter issued Thursday by the Ministry, all those who hold idle materials are requested to submit the detailed account of these goods to the organizations mentioned above or chambers of commerce and industry and then on the basis of these reports the purchase will be made by the corporation, as a matter of principle, at the market prices. Priorities will reportedly be granted to those who observe the movement in the future distribution of materials.

The list of commodities which will be bought by the Important Commodities Management Corporation includes pig iron, iron tubes, rails, iron and steel bar, iron and various steel materials, tin plate, hoop iron, nails, galvanized iron wire, galvanized iron plate, special steel, ferro-tungsten steel, ferro-molybdenum steel, copper, zinc, lead, antimony, aluminum, magnesia, cobalt rare metals, goods made of these materials, mica, asbestos, hides and leathers, raw wool, woolen textiles, cotton yarn, cotton goods, blankets, carpets, Chili saltpeter, alcohol, casein, glycerine, and rosin.

Ministry Statement

The statement of the Commerce and Industry Ministry which was issued Thursday simultaneously with the announcement of the investigation and purchase of idle materials follows in substance:

"Since it is urgently necessary to mobilize all resources existing in this country to operate the war economy as smoothly as possible thereby to bring the current war to a glorious conclusion, the newly-established Important Commodities Management Corporation is now driving toward the increase of important commodities at home and the utilization of them on a planned management system. On the occasion of the formation of the corporation, the Commerce and Industry Ministry has decided to investigate thoroughly and purchase idle materials being hoarded by manufacturers and traders in an endeavor to improve the efficiency of the utility of key materials.

"The contemplated action, however, can not be successfully carried out merely by the efforts of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and other Government offices but the wholehearted cooperation on the part of the people is quite necessary."

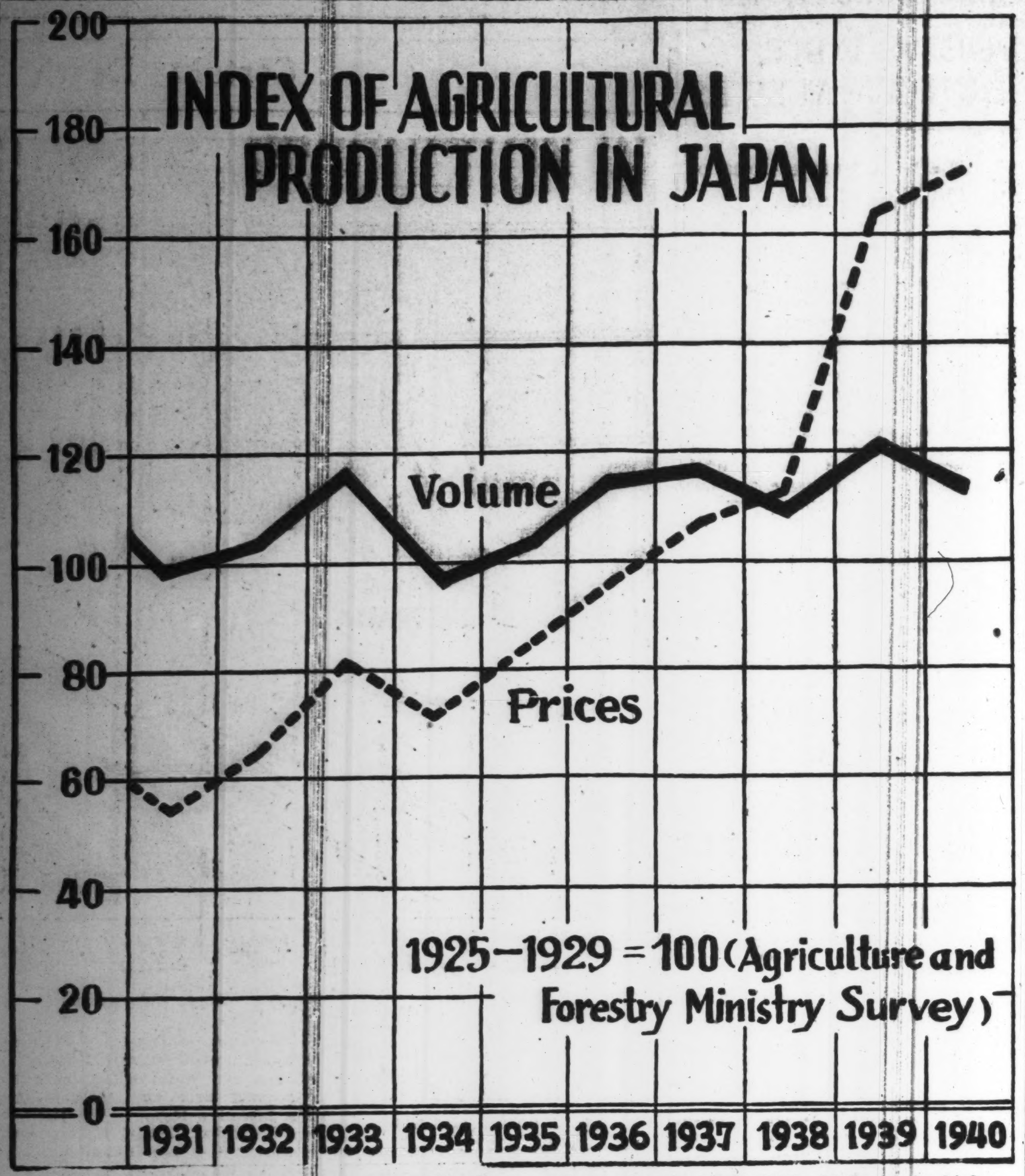
COPRA OIL MIXED IN SOAP

Up to 50 Per Cent Can Be Used for Toilet Soap

The maximum percentages of copra oil mixtures hitherto put in practice for soap production are quoted by the Nippon Kogyo Shimbun as follows:

20% for toilet soap
30% for laundry soap
60% for powder soap

According to the researches conducted by the authorities and civilian experts concerned in anticipation of the bulky supply of this oil from the southern areas, it has been revealed that copra oil can be mixed up to 50% for toilet soap and that the percentages of mixtures for laundry soap and powder soap can be raised by approximately 20%. It is expected that the summer schedule of soap production will be performed according to these percentages of copra oil mixtures, adds the journal.



The steady rising trend of prices of agricultural products since the onset of the China Affair has greatly improved the financial condition of farmers so that the suspension of silk shipment to the United States following the American freezing of Japanese assets has not affected rural economy even to a slight degree. The upward curve is understood to be attributable chiefly to the higher prices of grains, vegetables and milk goods. Prices of rice, the staple food of the Japanese, however, showed a sharp decline during 1940. The production curve took a zigzag course from the start of the Manchuria incident up to 1940, but the general tone continued upward.

BUSINESSMEN SEEK NEW LIAISON BODY

Projected Committee to Be Composed of Financiers and Industrialists

For the purpose of further smoothening the operation of war economy in this country, a movement is now being launched among various circles concerned to create a liaison organization between financiers and industrialists on the occasion of the approaching completion of the new financial structure which is expected to be realized when the National Monetary Control Association is established on May 23, with legal backings to be provided in accordance with the Monetary Control Organizations Ordinance, says the Asahi.

Following the formation of the Commercial Banks and the Local Banks Control Associations on May 11, similar agencies for savings banks, security underwriters and trust firms have already been inaugurated and the remaining control organizations for this line will also be established in several days. The Savings Banks Control Association's chairman of the board of directors is Heitaro Okamoto, former director of the Investigation Bureau of the Bank of Japan; the Security Underwriters Control Association is headed by Junichiro Nishimura, former Vice-Minister of Finance and Commerce of the Manchoukuo Government; and the Trust Control Association by Yukio Imamura, chairman of the board of directors of the Sumitomo Trust Company.

Other Liaison Bodies

Some economic leaders have recently proposed the creation of a liaison committee between monetary and industrial circles and this proposal is now being supported by an increasing number of businessmen. According to the plan being considered by these promoters, members of the projected committee will include managing directors of the Iron and Steel, Coal, Mining and Machinery Control Associations, chairman of the board of directors of the Commercial Banks, Trust and Life Insurance Control Associations; governor of the Bank of Japan; governor of the Industrial Bank of Japan; president of the Yokohama Specie Bank; as well as presidents of the National Monetary Control Association, Wartime Financing Bank and Industrial Equipment Corporation.

Meanwhile, the Asahi also reports that a new high record was set in the balance of deposits in savings banks at the end of last month. The balance as of April 30 was registered at ¥6,225,725,525 which shows an increase of ¥161,637,713 in comparison with the figure for the previous month, as shown in the following table: (In ¥1,000. Minus signs denote decrease)

	April Balance	Increase over March
Ordinary savings	1.540,229	27.679
Deferred savings	2.797.916	116.275
Fixed savings	1.865.782	18.101
Fixed deposits	20.886	—870
Others	909	44
Total	6,225,725	161.890

Closing Quotations Of Key Local Bonds, Stocks, Commodities

Closing prices of key local stocks commodities and bonds yesterday on the Tokyo, Yokohama, and Osaka exchange follow, in yen:

		Comp. with prev. day
Tokyo Exchange, new, short-term	132.0	— .60
N.Y.K., new, short-term	85.9	— .80
Kanegafuchi Spinning, new, short-term	97.3	— .70
Government bond, Kogo 5s	107.5	— .05

PLANS AGREED UPON FOR SOUTH TRAFFIC

Southern Economic Conference Outlines Program for Land, Sea, Air Navigation

Ever since the formation of the Traffic Committee, headed by Chairman Yasuji Shimizu, concurrently president of the Toa Kaiun Steamship Company, under date of January 17, the Southern Economic Conference has been in touch with the members of this committee in connection with the projected extension of their business to the southern areas, according to a local daily.

It is said that a final program was discussed and agreed upon in the course of the meeting on May 14, which was joined by the directors and general members of the committee, and that they took this matter up with the authorities concerned. The three major items covered by the program are seafaring traffic, land traffic and air navigation, and communications. The paper outlines these items as follows:

(1) A trunk railway line shall be built to connect China, French Indo-China, Thailand and Malaya for the purpose of linking the important points in Greater East Asia, with a possible extension later to Burma and India.

(2) Due respect shall be paid to the existing state of, and materials required for the maintenance, of railway lines in the southern areas irrespective of their comparative insignificance at present except for those operated in Java.

(3) Land traffic efficiency shall be enhanced in the southern areas with the utilization of splendid roads in these areas aggregating 572,000 kilometers in length. In view of the prospective formation of close relations between Australia and the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere at a future date, it is possible that the huge number of automobiles now used in Australia, New Zealand and India, respectively estimated at 808,500; 276,000 and 123,000, may be mobilized for smooth transportation of materials in the Co-Prosperity Sphere.

(4) Negotiations shall be conducted between the Southern Economic Conference and the Southern Development Bank as well as the Foreign Trade Control Association with regard to funds required and the research needed for a considerable replenishment of automobile parts that should be turned out for making cars and trucks needed in the southern areas.

UPWARD TREND SEEN ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Atmosphere on Market Cheerful Over News of Developments On European Front

Cement Industrials and part of the power wares firmed up in the long-term market and a buying sentiment of Dai-Nippon Beer, new, was noticeable in the short-term. Many stocks, however, marked time, although the floor well-received bullish factors such as the development of the European front favorable to Germany and the news of the organization of the Imperial Rule Assistance Political Association.

In the long-term section, Japan Electric Industry stepped up ¥0.20, Ebigawa Electric ¥1.50, Asano Cement ¥1.10, its new ¥0.20 and Iwaki Cement ¥0.80. The report that cement prices will be raised considerably in the near future stimulated the buying feeling of cement wares. The upward swing of Ebigawa Electric is understood to be attributable to an indication that the capital of the firm will be boosted before long.

The atmosphere of spinning and heavy industrials, generally speaking, was less bright than that of power and cement issues, but Kureha Spinning rose ¥0.60, Ama Spinning ¥0.40, Niigata Iron Works, new, ¥0.70, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries ¥0.70, Hitachi Iron Works ¥0.30, Dai-Nippon Arms ¥0.70, and Special Steel Tubing ¥0.30.

Afternoon closing prices of important wares in the short-term market are as follows: Tokyo Exchange, new, ¥132.00, N.Y.K. ¥99.90, its new ¥85.90, Kanegafuchi Spinning ¥153.60, its new ¥97.30 and Teikoku Rayon, new, ¥90.00.

Long-Term Market

Long-term market prices in yesterday's afternoon session were:

	Clos.		June	July
First Section				
Fuji Spinning (50)	65.3	d .4	64.7	65.1
Do. new (25)	37.0	d .1	36.4	36.9
Kanegafuchi Sp (50)	153.2	d .8	152.0	153.1
Do. new (25)	97.1	d1.0	97.4	98.3
Tei'ku Rayon n (37½)	90.2	d .6	88.2	88.3
Tokyo Rayon (50)	42.7	d1.1	42.1	42.2
Toyo Rayon, new (50)	72.5	d .9	71.7	72.2
Second Section				
N. Y. K. (50)	101.0	d .9	101.0	101.7
Do. new (37½)	86.6	d .9	87.1	87.4
O. S. K (50)	93.3	d .4	93.4	92.4
Do. new (37½)	92.6	d .5	93.0	....
Ishikawajima S.B. (50)	82.3	d .2	....	82.3
Uraga Dock (50)	96.9	d .1	96.7	97.7
Mitsubishi Heavy (50)	108.9	u .5	81.3	82.2
Hitachi Works (50)	....	u .3	....	75.1
Third Section				
S. M. R. (50)	71.2	u .2	....	71.1
Japan Fat (50)	68.3	u .1	67.0	67.4
Japan Automobile Ind	....	....	74.6	75.1
Ikegai Automobile Ind.	....	....	67.2	68.2
Japan Piston Ring	79.0	d .9	79.5	79.0
Kotobuki Heavy Ind.	....	u .1	63.4	61.2
Japan Nickel	49.7	u .3	49.6	49.9
Furukawa Industry	120.3	d .6	118.1	119.1
Mitsubishi Machinery	129.8	d .7	....	....

Government Bonds

Government bonds spot prices yesterday afternoon were:

Kogo 5%	107.05	107.05	107.05	107.05
Second 5%	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00
First 4—	102.95	102.95	102.95	102.95

Short-Term Market

Short-term prices yesterday afternoon were:

	Open.	High	Low	Clos.
Tokyo Stock, new	132.3	132.5	132.1	132.0
N. Y. K., old	100.5	100.5	99.6	99.9
N. Y. K., new	86.3	86.3	85.7	85.9
Kanegafuchi Spin.	154.0	154.0	153.7	153.6
Do. new	97.6	97.6	97.2	97.3
Teikoku Rayon, n.	90.4	90.4	90.0	90.0
Osaka Stock, new.	72.1	72.1	72.0	72.1
Japan Steel Tube.	74.1	74.1	73.6	73.7
Japan Oil	76.8	78.8	76.6	76.6
S. M. Railway	71.4	71.4	71.4	71.4
Mitsubishi Heavy	108.6	108.4	108.3	108.3
Hitachi Works	74.5	74.4	74.4	74.4
Japan Mining	58.9	....	....	58.9
Manchuria Ind	59.7	....	....	59.7

MACHINE INDUSTRY MAKES HUGE STRIDE

Industrial Production Increased By Leaps and Bounds Since China Affair

Favored with the war boom since the outbreak of the China Affair, the machine manufacturing industry of this country increased by leaps and bounds, the May edition of the Diamond reports. The trade journal report in part follows:

With the ever increasing military demand for machinery of all kinds since the outbreak of the China Affair the production of machinery in this country increased by many times over the production figure for the year 1936, according to the investigations made by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

Consequent upon the great changes that have taken place in the international situation and with the China Affair becoming long drawn-out, the machinery industry of Japan has been concentrated upon essential and urgent war requirements, such as machines for building ships, planes and automobiles. The production indices prepared by the Commerce and Industry Ministry for machinery are as follows:—

The first half of 1936	207.3
The latter half of 1936	221.1
The first half of 1937	251.6
The first half of 1938	291.2
The latter half of 1938	295.3
The first half of 1939	295.5
The latter half of 1939	291.4
The first half of 1940	286.6

(N.B.—The index figures of the Commerce and Industry Minister includes iron and steel production, as well as electric power for the years following 1938.)

Machinery Output Big

Accordingly, the above figures for the years after 1938 do not indicate the production of machinery only, but a great increase in the output of machinery was witnessed in the years between 1936 and 1938.

The production of machinery for shipbuilding as seen from the capital investments are as follows:

Capital Invested in Shipbuilding Machinery Industry

	Total amount capital	Paid capital	Average paid capital
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)		
First half, 1936	920.5	415.5	381.9
Latter half, 1936	983.4	414.4	402.9
First half, 1937	1,201.4	494.7	454.3
Latter half, 1937	1.560.7	579.9	539.9
First half, 1938	1,911.8	711.7	637.1
Latter half, 1938	2.373.7	787.0	760.1
First half, 1939	2,776.9	869.5	832.9
Latter half, 1939	3.418.6	1.032.3	970.0
First half, 1940	3.821.1	1.378.5	1.195.1
Latter half, 1940	4,633.5	1,485.6	1,423.9
First half 1941	5.341.2	1,604.2	1.558.0

It will be seen from the foregoing tabulation that the total amount of paid capital increased by three times in the year 1941 as compared with that of the year 1936, while the total amount of capital increased by five times, taking into consideration the appreciation in prices in general. This great increase in the capital invested in the shipbuilding machinery industry is naturally due to the increased war requirements. However, the rate of increase in the capital followed a declining tendency with the peak reached in the year 1940, which reflects the effect of the Government control on capital and the fact that the various machine manufacturing factories have now been turned into a vast high efficiency organization on the basis of the Government's priority system.

In view of the fact that the machinery industry holds an important position in all the wartime industries of Japan, the evil of making poor quality goods could not be permitted, and for this reason strict control began to be effected in the manufacture of machinery. The amount of depreciation of frozen assets in the machinery industry is also very great as compared with some of the other industries, and the following tabulation indicates the sound and healthy progress now being made by the machinery industry of Japan:—

Composition of Assets

	Frozen assets	(%)	Circulat'g assets	(%)
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)			
First hf., 1936	300.0	32.5	607.4	65.9
Latter hf., 1936	306.1	31.1	658.8	67.0
First hf. 1937	336.7	28.0	834.4	69.4
Latter hf., 1937	391.9	25.1	1,210.7	71.9
First hf., 1938	454.1	23.7	1,401.8	73.3
Latter hf., 1938	540.7	22.8	1,762.4	74.3
First hf., 1939	661.2	23.8	2,033.4	73.2
Latter hf., 1939	722.7	20.9	2,625.2	76.1
First hf., 1940	839.6	21.9	2,869.4	75.1
Latter hf., 1940	942.8	20.3	3,551.1	76.6
First hf., 1941	1,022.8	19.1	4,107.1	76.8

The profits of the machinery industry have skyrocketted during the past five years as witness the following table of profits:—

	Profit	Pct. of profit	Pct. dividends
	(In unit of ¥1,000,000)		
First half, 1936	38.4	1.99	0.82
Latter half, 1936	40.9	1.99	0.83
First half, 1937	52.8	2.23	0.88
Latter half, 1937	51.9	1.93	1.00
First half, 1938	65.1	2.05	0.83
Latter half, 1938	78.5	2.06	0.84
First half, 1939	90.8	2.20	0.97
Latter half, 1939	110.8	2.27	0.92
First half, 1940	122.7	2.05	0.83
Latter half, 1940	138.6	1.98	0.81
First half, 1941	149.2	1.93	0.82

New Electricity Tariff

With a view to simplifying procedures for applications to be filed with the authorities concerned for electric power supplies on a contract basis and to unifying charges for power consumption, the Electricity Board has been working on a new tariff of electric rates to be charged by the newly-organized electric supplying companies, according to the Nippon Kogyo. The new tariff was expected to be circulated among the power supplying companies upon approval by the Communications Minister on Thusday.

Indonesians Look Forward to Prosperity Under New Era of Japanese Military Rule

Surveying the undreamt-of ordeals experienced by the 70,000,000 Indonesians during the past two months and recollecting the unbearable servitude to which they have been subjected for the past four centuries, a Nichi Nichi correspondent at Batavia furnishes us with an account of his personal observations during his travels in the East Indies, pointing out, among other things, the consciousness of the natives regarding the brutal exploitation of their own resources hitherto carried on by the Dutch and their growing aspiration for the creation of an autarchy in their homeland.

The gist of the correspondent's observations follow:

Ignorance of Natives Pitiful

"Very few of the natives have ever had a chance to see a world atlas. This is due to the laugh-provoking artifice that the Netherlands Government has resorted to in order to keep the natives ignorant of the position their motherland holds in the world. Thanks to the progress of the current war of Greater East Asia, however, they now have the privilege of studying a world atlas. With the atlas unfolded before them, they are now convinced of the true meaning of the War of Greater East Asia. They are now allowed to listen in to the radio news reporting minute by minute the significant operations of the Japanese Forces. From the newspapers that they have been allowed to read for the first time they have learned that they can never expect to create an Elysian for themselves till the successful conclusion of the War of Greater East Asia.

"In the course of a round-table conference held recently by the Batavia office of the Nichi Nichi, the influential native leaders unanimously expressed their views to the effect that they are ever ready to go through any hardships and to sacrifice everything till Japan scores a decisive victory in the current war. On the other hand, the shouts of Banzai for His Majesty the Emperor on the occasion of Tenchosetsu (April 29) seemed to sound louder and more significant than the cheers they gave when they greeted the Japanese landing forces on their soil.

Dutch Cajoled by U.S., Britain

"The industrial organization in the East Indies has hitherto been manipulated by the United States and Britain, rather than the Netherlands, from a selfish motive to corner the local products, for it is the former two countries that have cleverly and freely cajoled the Dutch people behind the scenes. The most conspicuous illustration of this fact may be seen in the Anglo-American avarice for tin, rubber, aromatic stuff and coffee. This avarice on the part of the U.S. and Britain has caused the production of necessaries of the 70,000,000 natives to be extremely restricted, and the production of certain items have been totally forbidden, by the colonial Government.

"As for petroleum products, which constitute an important item of popular necessities, America and Britain have not been over-pleased with the natives' investments for the development of the rich oil deposits which are estimated to aggregate 3,000,000,000 barrels.

"The fact is, the annual production of petroleum in the East Indies remains as small as 3 per cent of the world production. This is a manifestation of the self-centered policies on the part of the Anglo-American administrators by reason of plentiful oil production in their colonies as well as their homeland.

Minor Industries in Bad State

"Despite the wealth of resources and sufficient labor for minor industries in the East Indies, there are no signs of marked improvement in these industries. In consequence, the density of the native population remains in an abnormal state with the resultant disturbance of balances in the matter of commodity distributions, for which the Anglo-American selfishness is likewise responsible.

"Thus it is concluded that the ever-thirsty British and Americans have for many decades sucked the blood of the 70,000,000 natives in the East Indies merely to enrich the Anglo-American storehouses. Due, however, to the stoppage of trade relations between their homelands and this part of the country consequent to the outbreak of the War of Greater East Asia, the natives are now confronted with the complete loss of autarchy for their own livelihood. They are, as a matter of course, coveting the reorganization of their industries on a sound basis with the aid of the Japanese administrators so as to ensure a sufficient production of their necessities."

REVISED NAVIGATION RULING GIVES MINISTRY AUTHORITY

Ordinance Has Three-Fold Object for Readjustment of Shipping Enterprises

With the three-fold object (1) of readjusting the various shipping enterprises, (2) of carrying out the large-scale shipbuilding program, and (3) of gaining mastery of world-wide shipping, the Government published a comprehensive revision of the Navigation Control Ordinance as appearing in the Official Gazette of May 15, reports the Chugai Shogyo. It is understood that the revised ordinance took effect the same day the revised ordinance was promulgated (May 15).

According to the revised ordinance, the Communications Minister has been invested with the following authority, including the control of seafaring traffic, shipbuilding industries, salvage, ship chandlers' business, etc. as well as the proper readjustment of the shipping enterprises, adds the Chugai.

1. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to transfer or make loans of equipments, materials or business rights to other parties.

2. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to contribute equipment or business rights.

3. The minister shall be authorized not only to order the use, consumption or ownership of materials but also to restrict or prohibit the transfer, consumption, possession, etc. of materials.

4. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to build or make repairs to vessels.

5. The minister shall be authorized not only to order shipping interests to undertake business on a commission basis and to engage in joint enterprises but also to order the merger of companies concerned.

6. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to abolish or suspend their enterprises.

7. The minister shall be authorized to order shipping interests to determine or revise the monetary value of vessels.

Bill Clearings

May 15
(In ¥1,000)

	Tokyo	Osaka
Bills Cleared	234.138	160.303
Balance	26.239	19.905

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MINISTRY ALTERS PRICE OF 9 ALCOHOLIC PRODUCTS

Increase Range From 5 to 20 Per Cent Compared With Previous Quotations

To cope with the increasing prices of materials used in alcohol manufactures and the suspension of imports of alcoholic products, the Commerce and Industry Ministry announced Thursday, the advance in prices of acetone and eight other alcoholic products.

The revision of the prices was gazetted May 14 by Commerce and Industry Ministry Ordinance No. 556. The new prices, which took effect immediately, represent an advance ranging from five to 20 per cent compared with the past prices. Details follow:

Revised Maximum Prices of Alcoholic Products
(Effective May 14)

	New Prices (In Yen per 1 kg.)
Acetone	1.76
Butanol	2.54
Methyl Acetate	1.21
Acetic Ether	1.38
Buthyl Acetate	2.88
Fusel Acetate	3.35
Amyl Acetate	4.20
Methyl Acetone	1.38
Secondary Butanol	*1.67

* Maximum sale price by Japan Solvents Joint Sales Company.

Bill Clearings Increase

Bill clearings in Japan during April totalled 3,375,714 bills valued at ¥118,167,020, representing an increase of ¥4,157,510 in value but a recession of 226,828 bills in transactions as compared with March, according to a survey by the Tokyo Clearing House, reports Domei.

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TOKYO, SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1942

The Corregidor Inventory

The Japanese Army in the Philippines has recently announced the amount of American equipment and supplies captured at Corregidor and other fortresses in Manila Bay. The inventory, though still incomplete, already revealed on May 12 an imposing array of which the following is only a partial list of the important items:

14 inch guns	8
12 inch guns	43
15 inch Canet guns	10
10 inch Canet guns	12
Field guns	54
Railway guns	4
Anti-aircraft guns	30
Anti-aircraft machine guns	42
33 mm. guns	10
Rapid-firing guns	20
Heavy machine guns	220
Light machine guns	130
Automatic rifles	240
Rifles	4,000
Pistols	1,200
Motor cars	250
Airplanes	8
Searchlights	20
Artillery ammunition	103,000 rounds
Machine gun bullets	890,000 rounds
Torpedoes	22

With 103 000 rounds of shells for their artillery pieces, with 890,000 rounds of ammunition for their machine guns to say nothing of unlisted ammunition for their small arms, and with provisions sufficient for at least another six months, how can the Americans say that Corregidor fell because of a lack of food and ammunition! Is any comment necessary on the fighting spirit of the American army or on the reliability of the American propagandists!

That Promised Allied Offensive

The glorious Japanese victories at Corregidor and in the Battle of the Coral Sea are quite legitimately an occasion for jubilation. But at the same time it must not be forgotten that while less spectacular, even more significant are the underlying considerations of high strategy. The confusion apparent among the Allied leaders as to what their high strategy should be reveals most clearly the bankruptcy of hope in the Allied camp.

While the Allied propaganda machine is ever turning out a flood of threats and promises of a great Allied offensive, the military leaders who are actually trying to figure out the plans for this offensive apparently have no idea as to how these threats and promises can be made good. There seems to be the greatest confusion and indecision as to how the offensive is to be made to materialize.

For instance, the commander-in-chief of the United States naval forces in European waters flatly contradicted the predictions of an imminent Allied offensive in a recent press interview at London. Admitting that the "battle of the Atlantic" was not going at all favorably for the Allies, he held that all plans for an offensive must be carefully weighed as to their risks. With the conflict in this area going unfavorably for the Allies, with the all-important line of communications between England and America in danger of being severed, it is of course obvious that the Allies could hope to stage no offensive in Europe. No large-scale action could possibly be conducted by the Allies on the European continent as long as the sea lanes from America to the scene of action were not absolutely secure. But with the Axis sinking Allied ships faster than the Allies can build new ones, an Allied offensive in Europe is out of the question.

As for an Allied offensive in the Pacific, the situation is even more hopeless. With their naval power repeatedly smashed by the Japanese Navy, how can the Allies with the crippled remnants of their fleets hope to venture again across the Pacific? If the Allies cannot launch an offensive in Europe with England just across the channel to serve as a base, how can the Allies possibly launch an offensive in Asia where all their possible bases have been safely captured by the Japanese? It is no wonder that the responsible military and naval experts show a hesitancy altogether inconsistent with the propagandistic announcements of the politicians. In the meantime, how long is the Allied public going to stand having their hopes alternately raised by their politicians and lowered by their soldiers?

This confusion between those who advocate an immediate offensive for political reasons and those who advocate caution for military reasons is reflected in the Allied press. In England, the Beaverbrook papers are loudly demanding the launching of an immediate offensive, while most of the other papers are strongly opposed to such rashness.

In the United States, the eminent newspaper columnist Raymond Clapper is leading the ranks of those who advocate caution. Holding that the half-hearted measures of the British during the past two and a half years have brought the Allies to the brink of irretrievable disaster, he warns the United States against making the similar mistake of attempting a premature offensive with incomplete preparation. England sent soldiers into battle with insufficient tank and plane support. The United States did the same in the Philippines. Britain underestimated the enemy constantly. The United States did the same in neglecting precautionary measures at Pearl Harbor. Britain waited too long before purging her administration of red tape. The American Government is still cluttered with too much administrative detail. Britain placed her military machine in the hands of superannuated officers who knew little of modern warfare. The United States has done the same thing. In the light of these facts, argues Clapper, no offensive is possible until Roosevelt learns to correct all the mistakes which Churchill has made.

Thus while the Allied propagandists breathe fire about the coming Allied offensive and while some newspapers echo the brave cry, military experts and reflective journalists admit that an offensive is an impossibility. To quiet public unrest, therefore, the Allies dispatch a little raiding expedition to a virtually undefended neutral possession like Madagascar, but against a real enemy they can do nothing.

The Indian Monsoon

The southwest monsoon currents usually set in during the first fortnight of June on the Bombay and Bengal coasts, though they linger on their way up-country, and give more or less general rain in every part of India during the next three months. But the distribution of the rainfall is very uneven. Overlooking the Bay of Bengal, where the mountains catch the masses of vapor as it rises off the sea, the rainfall is enormous. At Cherrapunji in the Khasi hills it averages upward of 500 inches a year.

The Bombay monsoon leaves with very little rain a strip 100 to 200 miles in width in the western Deccan parallel with the Ghats, and it is this part of the Deccan, together with the Mysore table-land and the Carnatic, that is most subject to drought. Similarly the Bengal monsoon passes by the Coromandel coast and the Carnatic with an occasional shower, taking a larger volume inland, and abundant rain to Assam and Cachar. The same current also supplies with rain the broad band across India, which includes the Vindhyas, Chota Nagpur, the greater part of the Central Provinces and Central India, Orissa and Bengal. Rainfall rapidly diminishes to the northwest from that belt. A branch of the Bombay current blows pretty steadily through Rajputana to the Punjab, carrying some rain to the latter province.

But the greater part of northwest India is served as a rule by cyclonic storms between the two currents. In September the force of the monsoon begins rapidly to decline, and in its rear springs up a gentle steady northeast wind, which gradually extends over the Bay of Bengal, and is known as the northeast monsoon. A wind similar in character, but rather more easterly in direction, simultaneously takes possession of the Arabian Sea. The most unhealthy season immediately follows the rains, when malaria is prevalent, especially in northern India.

A Year Ago Today

May 16, 1941

Bringing home important problems to discuss with the Central Government, Dr. Kumataro Honda, Japanese Ambassador to Nanking, arrived in Tokyo. The nature of his discussions with the officials here was not divulged.

According to a dispatch from Honolulu, 21 American flying fortresses completed a secret mass flight from the West Coast of the United States to the Hawaiian base, indicating the frantic war preparations being made by America. The planes were assumed to have flown from aircraft carriers included in a hostile fleet within striking distance of Oahu. They also "dive-bombed" the Hickam field area. The Hawaiian army announced that suitable measures were taken to turn back enemy planes.

The press was still giving prominence to the flight to England of Rudolf Hess. The newest conjecture was that his action was taken for fear of the Soviets.

According to a Domei dispatch from Washington, the American Government has decided to ignore the German warning regarding the Red Sea. "The President of the United States determines the war zones so far as we are concerned," Maritime Commissioner John Dempsey declared in commenting on the German decision to blockade the Red Sea.

DEFEATS AT CORREGIDOR FORT, CORAL SEA FRIGHTEN AUSSIES

Curtin States Country Cannot Escape Repercussions of Titanic Naval Encounter Off New Guinea

By a Special Correspondent

The pride of the whole American people in their fighting forces in East Asia has been shattered as the last American fortress on Corregidor Island has already fallen into Japanese hands.

When the American defenders of the Bataan Peninsula had been facing a most crucial moment, General Douglas MacArthur, Commander-in-Chief of the American forces in the Philippines, ran away from his desperately struggling troops to Australia with a downright lie: "We will return to the Philippines soon."

In view of the serious situation in the Bataan Peninsula, Mr. Roosevelt forced Lieutenant-General Jonathan Wainwright to make a hazardous trip across the Pacific and assume the command of the Bataan defenders only to make a national hero out of the run-away General MacArthur. It incidentally fell to the sad lot of General Wainwright to carry on the forced assignment of commanding the doomed American defenders until the last day of judgment.

Forced to Admit

Commanding on the unexpected fade-out of Corregidor Island from the map of American naval strategy, a United Press dispatch from Washington gloomily admitted: "The Japanese have gained a major strategic victory, taking Manila Bay fortresses." But the report added with chagrin: "These bases would have been vastly more valuable for the Japanese three months ago." To this cynicism we would say: "If these bases were in American hands, they would be vastly valuable for the ever-losing American forces in the Pacific."

We have known the average American as a good sport, but recently he is increasingly tending to be a bad loser. Disturbed by defeatist complex San Francisco radio K.G.E.I. went so far as to say: "Japan certainly cannot consider the story of Corregidor a Japanese victory. It was indeed an Allied victory." The presumptuous radio, however, did not have the nerve to declare that Corregidor was "an American victory," although it reiterated: "The story of Corregidor is not considered a story of defeat. It is not the story that brings fear."

Quotes Seneca

This was not enough for the San Francisco radio to console itself and the American listeners, for it sought epigrammatic expressions in the annals of ancient literature that would adequately serve to stem the surging tide of defeatism in the United States. The American radio picked on Seneca, a great poet of ancient Rome, who said: "There are some defeats that are more glorious than victories." But to be sure, the renowned Roman poet did not leave this remark behind to be twisted around to paint a heroic picture of the vanquished Americans in the Corregidor fortress.

Previous to the naval engagement between the Allied and Japanese fleets in the Coral Sea off Australia, Dr. Herbert Evatt, Australian minister for External Affairs, complained that there still is a tendency among the Allied nations to regard the Pacific conflict as a side-show in World War II. To this grumbling, the London Times made a rather clear statement saying that Dr. Evatt while in London should be able to convince himself that "no one in Great Britain underrates Japan or the menace to whole Allied strategy implied by the Japanese offensive in the Southwestern Pacific."

The London Star, too, stressed that "We can reassure Australia that nobody here still thinks the Japanese are a minor problem. The fact that Australia is at the other end of the world will not permit this Government to think of it as a distant and separate strategical consideration."

Australia Quivering

The Australian front is now made more serious as a result of the sea battle in the Coral Sea in which the Allied fleet lost two aircraft carriers, one battleship, one destroyer, and had one battleship and two cruisers seriously damaged.

Prime Minister John Curtin, told a tense and hushed House of Representatives that "the battle was of crucial importance to the whole conduct of the war in the Anzacs area ... I have no information as to how the battle is developing ..." Later in a radio broadcast, Mr. Curtin said: "I tell you bluntly that the whole world might well shake within the next few weeks under the blows of a full-scale warfare, and Australia cannot escape the blows." Such was the belief prevalent in Australia as to the outcome of the Coral Sea battle in which the Japanese Navy was overwhelmingly victorious.

Meanwhile, the United States likewise has suffered a far reaching setback in her war efforts. In a frantic effort to conceal a series of catastrophic defeats the American forces have sustained, American propaganda organs are continuing their utmost to present to their public Japan's naval and military strength in its worst light. But such a worn-out propaganda technique does not work a miracle any more inasmuch as the American people already have sized up their enemy's hitting power and fighting potentiality. For how can the authorities in Washington convince their people at large that the American fighting forces are still faring well in the gigantic theater of operations despite the fact that they have no more naval or air base in the Southwestern Pacific except in Australia?

While Japan's military supremacy in the Southwestern Pacific is now universally recognized, her economic power has attracted the Allies' special attention. G. C. Allan, professor of economics at Liverpool University, writing in the April 29 issue of the News From Great Britain, an organ of the British Legation in Stockholm, attested to Japan's economic strength. He said that Japan was now self-supporting in steel products, machinery, electric apparatus, and aircraft while her chemical and armaments industries have made enormous progress

Warning the Allies not to be too optimistic regarding oft-repeated reports on Japanese mechanical inferiority, the British professor of economics declared that the quality of Japanese-made precision instruments corresponds with their American and British counterparts. Then he went on to say that Japan has a great supply of working power and competent industrial leaders as is well evidenced by the effective industrial system Japan has created.

Japan Self-Sufficient

Blasting the allied propaganda that the Japanese people are hard hit economically, Professor Allan asserted that Japan can get enough provisions at home and from her colonies to maintain the present standard of living despite a great increase in population. He stressed that Japan is not economically vulnerable, and that it is not probable that Japanese war efforts will be handicapped by a lack of material resources or by flaws in the economic organization.

The British professor concluded that since Japan cannot be defeated by economic warfare, the Allies can win only by direct military and naval means.

Again we quote Prime Minister Curtin who said: "The whole world might well shake within the next few weeks under the blows of a full scale warfare, and Australia cannot escape the blows." This is a tacit admission that the Allied fleet has received a death blow in the Coral Sea. Such being the case, how can the Allied forces launch the much-publicized spring offensive against the Japanese mainland or even against Japanese-occupied territories in the southern regions? Without any working fleet and air bases to back them up, the Allied forces must either retreat to the hinterland of Australia or go back to the United States. Otherwise, there will be only one way left for them, that is, annihilation.

In the Periodicals

Shuho; a weekly published by the Board of Information, No. 292 dated May 13, 1942 (in Japanese). Price 5 sen. The leading articles: Japan's World View and the Construction of a New World Order, the Fall of Corregidor Fortress, the Development of the Operations in Burma, the Development of the Operations in Southwestern Pacific, the Election of Municipal, Town and Village Assemblymen, Marriage in Wartime, and the Problem of Madagascar.

Shashin Shuho, another weekly published by the Board of Information; No. 220 dated May 13, 1942 (in Japanese). Price 10 sen. As usual, the weekly is full of the current news items of the fighting and home fronts, told in pictures with brief explanations.

Kokusai Hyoron, Vol. 7, No. 5, May, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Kokusai Nippon Kyokai, Tokyo. Price 30 sen. The leading articles: What Is the Real Impregnable Structure?, Discussions of Clothing Resources of the Greater East Asia, the Increased Production of Raw Cotton in Southern Regions and Its Management, the World Situation Surrounding the War of Greater East Asia, Various Political Parties of India, Cooperation Movements of the Philippines, and Philippines' Marine and Aerial Transportation Facilities.

Economist; a weekly No. 18 dated May 13, 1942 (in Japanese, Publishers, the Osaka Mainichi Shimbun, Osaka. Price 35 sen. Feature articles: Comment on the Operations in East Indies, Agony of America's Wartime Finances, Political Situation of the U.S., Distressed Finances of America, Britain and Chungking, Shortage of Resources Disturbs America, the Philippines and Chinese Merchants, and Conception of Finances After the First World War.

Toyo Keizai (The Oriental Economist); No. 2,021 dated May 16, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Toyo Keizai Simposha, Tokyo. Price 35 sen. The leading articles: Adjustment Plans of Small and Medium-Sized Business Enterprises, Diffusion of Wartime Insurance, Significance of Madagascar, Readjustment of Tobacco Industry, and Manchoukuo's Economic Equalization Fund System.

A bulletin containing foreign trade enquiries and information; No. 303 dated May 10, 1942 (in Japanese). Publishers, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry. It contains the summarized report of overseas economic and industrial conditions, including Australia and the United States.

Daito Bunka; a monthly publication of the Daito Culture Association, Tokyo, No. 96, May 1942 (in Japanese): full of information concerning the study of culture in East Asia.

Boners

The principal parts of the eye are the moat and the beam.

• • •

In order to keep milk from turning sour, it should be kept in the cow.

Certain Death

LITERARY CLASSICS OF ASIA

AL MAHDI AND THE ARABS OF THE DESERT

By MAS'UDI (died 956)

The following anecdotes are related by Faika, the daughter of Abd Allah: We were one day with the Caliph Al Mahdi, who had just returned from Anbar, to which he had made a pleasure excursion, when Ar-Rabi, the chamberlain, came in, holding a piece of leather on which some words were written in charcoal, and to which was attached a seal composed of clay mixed with ashes and bearing the impression of the Caliph's signet-ring. 'Commander of the Faithful,' said Ar-Aabi. 'I never saw anything more extraordinary than this document: I received it from an Arab of the desert who was crying out: "This is the Commander of the Faithful's letter! Show me were to find the man who is called Ar-Rabi, for it is to him that he told me to deliver it!"

Al Mahdi took the letter and laughed; he then said: 'It is true: this is my writing and this is my seal. Shall I relate how it happened? To this we replied: 'If it please the Commander of the Faithful.' Then he said. 'I went out to hunt yesterday evening when the shower was over. The next morning a thick mist overwhelmed us, and I lost sight of my companions; I then suffered such cold, hunger, and thirst as God only knows, and I lost my way besides.

'At that moment came to my mind a form of prayer which my father, Al Mansur, had taught me, saying that his father, Muhammad, had learnt it from his grandfather, Ali, who had been taught it by his father, Abd Allâh, the son of Abbas. It was this: "In the name of God," and "By the might of God! We have no power or force but in God! I fly to God for protection! I confide in God: God sufficeth me! He protecteth, sufficeth, directeth, and healeth, from fire and flood, from the fall of house, and from evil death!"

Arab of the Desert

'When I had uttered these words, God raised up a light before me, and I went toward it, and lo! I found this very Arab of the desert in his tent, with a fire which he had been just lighting up. "Arab of the Desert" said I, "hast thou withal to treat a guest?" "Dismount!" said he. Then I dismounted, and he said to his wife. "Bring here that barley;" and she brought it. "Grind it," said he; and she began to grind it. I then said to him: "Give me a drink of water;" and he brought me a skin in which was a little milk mixed with water, and I drank thereof a such as I had never drunk before, it was so sweet! and he gave me one of his saddle-cloths, and I laid my head on it, and never did I sleep a sounder sleep.

'On awaking, I saw him seize on a poor miserable sheep and kill it, when his wife said to him: "Beware, wretched man! thou hast slain thyself and thy children; our nourishment came from this sheep, and yet thou hast killed it! What then have we to live upon?" On this I said: "Do not mind. Bring the sheep here"; and I opened it with the knife I wore in my boot, and I took out the liver, and having split it open, I placed it upon the fire and I ate thereof. I then said to him: "Dost thou want anything? I shall give thee a written order for it." On this he brought me that piece of leather, and I wrote on it with a bit of burnt wood which I picked up at his feet—that very note. I then set this seal on it, and told him to go and ask for one Ar-Rabi, to whom he was to give it.' This note contained an order for 500,000 dirhems, and Al Mahdi exclaimed on hearing it: 'By Allah! I meant only 50,000 but since 500,000 are written in it, I shall not diminish the sum one single dirhem; and were there no more in the treasury, he should have it. So give him beasts of burden, and let him take it away.'

In a very short time that Arab had numerous flocks of camels and

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READERS IN COUNCIL

Tacit Admission

To the Editor:

The war-mongers of Washington and London have grown sulky and gloomy over the crushing blow their combined fleet has received from the Japanese Navy in the Battle of the Coral Sea. As usual, they claimed their fleet had scored a victory at first, in hopes of heartening the people who have been sick and tired of news of defeat of their navy which has lost 24 battles since December 8. But inasmuch as news of their victory was something they manufactured and not actual, the authorities in London and Washington could not make any definite official announcement; they made their radio announcers quote statements issued by deserter General MacArthur in Australia.

Glum and Sullen

After the initial crowing, both Washington and London relapsed into their former dejection, as a continuous flow of unfavorable news poured in from the Coral Sea, confirming the defeat of their combined fleet. Disheartened President Roosevelt cancelled all press conferences for the time being, while Mr. Hull gloomily said: "We must refrain from discussing the result of the battle but wait for further reports."

In a frantic effort to save their face, the Allied war-chiefs said that the Japanese owed their victory at Pearl Harbor to sheer luck, and "the absence of British aircraft carriers" gave the Japanese their victory in the Battle off Malaya. As to the latest Japanese victory in the Battle of the Coral Sea, however, even members of the Washington and London War-Breweries, Ltd., always ready as they are with handy excuses, have failed to hide their incompetence from their own peoples.

Defeat Psychosis

From the repeated defeats they have suffered from the Japanese, the Allied navy officers and men have developed an incurable defeat psychosis. Before they commenced fighting in the Coral Sea, they were already convinced of their defeat, and they allowed such well-built capital ships as California and Warspite to be either sunk or demolished. The huge size of a combined fleet of different nations is no guarantee for its fighting strength. The weakness of such a mongrel fleet has been attested by the historic defeat suffered by the Franco-Spanish fleet in the days of Napoleon. Different methods of training and strategy, and morale of those who compose such a combined fleet obstruct an efficient prosecution of strategic operations. The Allied war-mongers who previously shared the views of Henry Ford who believed that history was bunk must have found out that history is not bunk.

Both American and British people are growing sceptical of their Governments, for silence on the [illegible] of their Government does not prevent them from smelling out the truth.

Washington naval observers, according to a Reuter dispatch, stated that the American people believe that the Allied forces have lost several naval vessels and aircraft carriers. In order to divert the attention of the people from "another shattering defeat" in the Coral Sea, the Washington War-Breweries, Ltd. made a comical disclosure of the Tokyo Raid through distortion of the established facts to suit their purpose. What they said does not even deserve refutation.

U.S. Navy Is 'Has-Been'

By the latest reverses it has suffered in the Battle of the Coral Sea, the American navy is reduced to a third-rate Power. Not only that both the Pacific and Indian Oceans are under the control of the Japanese Navy, and the communication line linking the United States, Australia and Britain is completely cut off. And with all the rich strategic resources in the Pacific area under her command, Japan is now in a position to vie with the United States for supremacy in naval building competition, if that is what America wants.

No matter how furiously the Unit-

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JAPAN YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Loyalty

By SANTARO
Of Japan Times and Advertiser Staff

Part II

In Japan loyalty to the Throne and patriotism are one and the same. Such a statement is to the Japanese mind as self-evident as the proposition that snow is white and charcoal black, but it must appear a matter for great surprise to the Europeans in general and the Americans in particular. The first page of American history is picture of a fierce conflict between the so-called Loyalists and Patriots, and ends in ignominious defeat for the Loyalists and in the founding of the independent United States, and the word "Loyalist" has been gall and wormwood to the American palate ever since.

The history of England, too, contains many passages where the Loyalists were dubbed as Royalists who merely championed the interests of a Royal house opposed to the interests of the people at large; and regicide is one of the highlights in the exciting drama of England. As for China, it simply abounds in stories of "true patriots" who were the staunchest enemies of their kings, and not without reason, too; for their "kings" had often been none other than the chieftains of the savage hordes who came leaping over the great Chinese Walls to ravage and pillage the fair gardens of the "Middle Kingdom."

Loyalty to the Throne is treated as one of the universal human qualities, taken for granted like love of children or filial piety. We sometimes speak of great loyalists or disloyal subjects, but such epithets only indicate the difference of degree in the loyalty possessed by various persons, as we speak of good men and bad men, or heroes and villains. That any Japanese subject can be really disloyal to the Throne is unthinkable, almost as absurd as to suggest that any human being should hate the air he breathes or the sun he basks in.

It is granted that a number of names—famous or rather infamous in Japan's history—will at once occur to prove (!) that there have been outrageous exceptions. Analyzing such exceptions, however, one will find that the worst cases of which have ever befouled the book of Japan cannot be described in the strictest sense of the term as disloyal acts directed against the Throne. At the risk of killing the slain we will tackle a few well-known cases.

Dokyo's Ambition

The blackest example conceivable is that of Dokyo the bonze who cast an irreverent eye of ambition on the Throne of Japan; in which he was deservedly frustrated. He was one of the greatest favorites in the Imperial Court, high in the personal esteem of the then reigning Emperor, covered with the proudest titles any ecclesiastic could aspire to. The very fact that he had conceived his audacious ambition upon the supposition that he was the wisest man ever born—an aberration which a man in great office is apt to entertain—and that he had in his veins some Royal blood is exidence enough that he had no idea of doing any harm to the Throne, he only imagined himself a good enough man to sit on it—a sheer megalomaniac.

The case of Masakado was that of a disappointed and disgruntled office-seeker. The very words which the historian Sanyo put into his mouth as he gazed from the height of Mount Hiei on the august Palace, if they were true which I doubt, seem to prove him only a man of vaulting ambition lacking in balance of mind and poise of manner, as his vulgar table manners testify. Masakado was born in Shimosa Province, a descendant of Prince Katsurahara (son of the Kwanmu Tenno) and a grandson to Takamochi, the first man to use the famous family-name of Taira. He early came to Kyoto and served Fujiwara Tadahira the regent, and later requested the position of Kebiishi, a sort of

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